The Chicago Daily Tribune.

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300 STUFF SUITS

Of our own manufacture at 33 per cent less than cost.

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DECORATED DINNER SETS,

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AT A GREAT SACRIFICE,

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As we are determined to close it out entirely by Jan. 1. Parties selecting

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Have unusually attractive goods this season. Hdkf., Glove, Collar, and Cuff Boxes, and Sleeve Buttons of Japanese make, of designs never before shown. Fancy and White Hemstitch Linen and Silk Hdkfs.; Silk Scarfs, Ties, and Mufflers; Silk Suspenders; Silk Umbrellas; Silk, Cotton, and Merino Fancy Hosiery; Gloves, Mittens, &c., &c.

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ELEGANT MINK SACQUES,
ELEGANT SEAL MUFFS & BOAS,
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When the 23d of the month falls on Sunday, steamers sail the day previous. These steamers are perfectly new, with all the latest improvements, having first-class passenger accommodations.

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PRICE OF PASSAGE IN GOLD (including wine): First cabin, $140 and $120, according to accommodation; second cabin, $75; third, $40. Return tickets at reduced rates. Steerage $30, with superior accommodations, including all necessaries without extra charge. Steamers marked thus † do not carry steerage passengers.

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SPAIN, 4,871 tons.....Saturday, Jan. 15, at 8 a. m.
ENGLAND, 4,826 tons....Saturday, Jan. 22, at 12 noon.

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ERIN, 4,060 tons.....Saturday, Dec. 25, at 9 a. m.
CANADA, 4,276 tons.....Tuesday, Jan. 4, at 9 a. m.

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From New York to Bristol (England) direct.

SOMERSET, Western.....Thursday, Dec. 16
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For children and adults. Fine Watches of both Home and Foreign manufacture at about one-half of former prices. Ladies' Watches at from $25 upward; Elgin Silver Watches, for boys, $12.50 and upward.

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Set in Finger Rings, Studs, Ear-rings, Crosses, Lockets, &c., $25 and upward.

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No trouble to show our beautiful stock.

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Fine Goods sent to any part of the Northwest for selection.

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We will open this morning a very large stock of magnificent Diamonds, in elegant new settings, consisting of Ear Rings, Crosses, Solitaire and Cluster Rings, and Studs.

We have several pairs of GEM STONES, which cannot be duplicated.

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The best Parlor Pianos in the World.
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Office of the Merchants' Savings, Loan and Trust Company, corner of Madison and Dearborn-sts.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Merchants' Savings, Loan and Trust Company for the election of eleven (11) Trustees to serve during the ensuing year and the transaction of such other business as may come up before the meeting will be held at the office of the Company on Tuesday, Jan. 4, 1876, between the hours of 10 a. m. and 12 m.

CHARLES HENROTIN, Cashier.

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On Real Estate in Chicago and vicinity. Funds in hand.

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REAL ESTATE WANTED,

Wanted to buy for investment a choice piece of vacant or improved residence property; must be a bargain; will pay cash and clear property. Address M 77, Tribune office.

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BIRDS SINGING BIRDS, TALKING PARROTS, and other Fancy Birds, Gold-Fish and Aquaria Tanks—all suitable for presents, at FRED KAEMPFER'S, 127 South Clark-st.

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DIAMONDS, BULLION, COIN, SILVERWARE, JEWELRY, or other Valuables,

DEEDS, WILLS, BONDS, Mortgages,

Held by Ladies, Business Men, Professional Men, Mechanics, Teachers, or Laborers, are secured against Fire and Burglars by depositing them in the

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OF THE

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Which have been built to accommodate Chicago and THE NORTHWEST.

Safes for Rent for $5 per Annum Upward.

GEO. C. COOK, Manager.

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6 Per Cent Interest on Deposits.

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LAST AND THE BEST

PAINTINGS

OF THE

Associated Artists

WILL BE CLOSED OUT,

Positively Without Reserve,

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Claims of any date or magnitude we are now prepared to push in connection with our mercantile and marine collections. Our years of experience, system, and facilities, have placed us at the head, and carry weight in the pushing or prosecuting of delinquents. No collections no charges. Send for circular.

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C. MERET,

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WASHINGTON.

Growls Long and Deep Over Kerr's Committee Selections.

Pennsylvania Democrats Mourn, and Will Not Be Comforted.

Wood Will Be the Mouthpiece of the Ways and Means Committee.

Current Talk Concerning Retrenchment and Early Adjournment.

The Confederate Raid on the House Offices Temporarily Checked.

Washington Society Affairs---Some Questions of Etiquette.

THE GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT.

MR. KERR'S COMMITTEE SELECTIONS.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 21.—The appearance of the list of Committees in print has enabled Democrats to take in the situation more clearly than was possible in the reading from the desk. This deliberate consideration has only served to intensify the general dissatisfaction which existed last night. Eastern Democrats are unconsolable on the one hand, while the Pacific Slope patriots declare that they have been ignored. Pennsylvanians are, perhaps, the loudest of all in fault-finding. They are preparing a list of those who voted for Randall for the purpose of showing that all who did not support Kerr have been put down by him. Mr. Cox is more bitter than ever, and especially since he has discovered that, while Fernando Wood is nominally second on the Ways and Means Committee, he will

VIRTUALLY BE LEADER OF THE HOUSE,

for the reason that Morrison, the Chairman, not being ready in debate or skilled as manager of a measure on the floor, will not often attempt to represent his Committee outside of its room. All the leading measures that his Committee may bring forward will consequently be, as a general thing, in charge of Mr. Wood, who will thus practically be leader of the House. This discovery is particularly unpleasant to Mr. Cox, who, although he has the Chairmanship of an important Committee, yet, as it does not have, like the Ways and Means, the right to the floor at any time, his chances of appearing prominent on the floor as Chairman are very small, as his Committee will not be called more than twice during the session. As the contest between Cox and Wood for the Ways and Means decided the Speaker to give it to neither, Cox's friends declare that virtually the place has been given to Mr. Wood.

Randall has already called his Committee and begun work. Three bills were assigned to-day, namely, the Military Academy, Pensions, and Diplomatic, and it is the intention to have these ready to report early in January.

TALK OF EARLY ADJOURNMENT.

There is great anxiety among the Democrats to get away as soon possible, and there is much talk of trying to adjourn by the 1st of May. The general dissatisfaction over the assignment of the Committees has introduced so many additional elements of discord as to make the leaders of the party more anxious for the future than ever. Randall insists that a set of appropriation bills can be framed which, without crippling any important branch of the service, will reduce the annual expenditures $40,000,000. He is looking to a large saving in army and navy expenses, and he has a bill reducing the army to 15,000 men, and effecting a saving of $10,000,000 in the military establishment alone. If the House passes this bill, and the Senate rejects it, the policy of the Democrats will be to make appropriations for the army in accordance with this proposed reduction. There are a number of Democrats, however, who do not regard it a good policy to force a reduction of the army.

NOTES AND NEWS.

COMING TO THEIR SENSES.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 21.—The removal of Union soldiers to make place for Confederates has been checked, temporarily at least, about the House, by the quiet protests of the more moderate Democrats, who have become convinced from expressions upon such changes throughout the North that it is not yet quite ready to concede Confederate claims. The chances now are that such removals will be suspended for the present.

WASHINGTON CHAT.

ETIQUETTE AT THE CAPITAL—THE ORACLE—FISH ENTERTAINMENTS—DIPLOMATIC DUTIES—JUVENILE JUNKETING—BRUNETTE VS. BLONDE—SLIPS OF TONGUES—COAST FRESHETS—A CARNIVAL—MASONIC MATTERS—THEATRICALS—THE FINE ARTS.

Special Correspondence of The Chicago Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—"Card the other Senators!" exclaimed bluff Ben Wade when he first came here in 1851, and was receiving some instructions as to what he was expected to do from his old Ohio friend, Elisha Whittlesey, who, after a long Congressional service, had drifted into a Comptrollership, and was an fait on all questions of Metropolitan etiquette. "Card the other Senators! Why, I've carded cattle, and I've seen my mother card wool; but how can I card the Senators?" Whittlesey laughed, and then explained to the new-comer that he must send a visiting-card to the other Senators, to the Judges of the Supreme Court, and to the Speaker, but on no account to a Cabinet officer. Yet the Cabinet officers have long maintained that Senators should pay them the first visit, either in person or by leaving a card, and often—when important business interests have been suffering for want of consideration—hours have been wasted in discussions of this

GREAT QUESTION OF ETIQUETTE.

That testy and pragmatical statesman, John Quincy Adams, is responsible for this. He had been virtually educated in the atmosphere of foreign Courts, and when he came here as Secretary of State, he undertook to transplant the rules of "precedence" established at the Court of the Grand Duchy of Pumpernickel and other little European one-horse Governments, where they make more fuss about such matters than they do at Paris, or London, or even St. Petersburg. Adams was then a candidate for the Presidency, relying upon his ancestry, his capability, and his honesty, but not on his affability, for he possessed none. Crawford and Calhoun, also members of the Cabinet, and also candidates for the Presidency, were more genial; and Adams found that they and their wives were calling upon Representatives and their wives, and thus establishing pleasant relations with the House, which was certain to nominate the candidates for the Presidency, and perhaps to elect one of them, as it did.

TO CHECKMATE HIS COLLEAGUES.

Adams actually so intrigued as to have complaints made to the President by Congressmen that he would not pay the first visit, either in person or by card; and finally there was a special Cabinet-meeting convened to discuss this question of "precedence." It met fifty-six years ago to-day,—Dec. 20, 1819,—as Adams records in his diary, "to consider the important question of etiquette in visiting"; but it is evident that he could not carry his point, as he snarls at Crawford, declaring that it is "his policy in all things to cringe to Members of Congress, because he has a steady eye on the caucus." The next day, Adams wrote a long letter on the subject to the President; and he followed it up, on the 29th, by a second epistle; but the question of "etiquette" between the Secretaries and the Congressmen has never been officially decided.

New-coming Congressmen, however, send cards to their colleagues, to the Judges of the Supreme Court, and to the Speaker. And the wives of the Secretaries, the Postmaster-General, and the Attorney-General, drive about the city, leaving their cards and their husbands' cards at the residence of every Senator, Representative, and Delegate, who has a * affixed to his name in the Congressional Directory, indicating that he is accompanied by his wife, or a § to show that he has a daughter with him, or a ‖ designating that some "other lady" is a member of his household. I am happy to say that, in the Directory, I do not find a single instance in which there is a ‖ without a *—and the assertion that Delegate Cannon, of Utah, as a polygamist, is disproved by his only having one *, instead of a whole galaxy of stars as some might imagine.

THE WASHINGTON ORACLE.

That new-comers may not suffer from their ignorance of the edicts presented by fashion, Mrs. Vinton-Dahlgren has published a dainty little volume containing the laws of etiquette, as she understands them. This lady is a daughter of old Sam Vinton, who represented an Ohio district here some two-and-twenty years, and then passed the remainder of his days here. Her first husband's name was Goddard; and, after his death, she married Admiral Dahlgren, and now has a personal claim for a national remuneration for his discoveries in ordnance. Her Saturday-evening receptions are literary entertainments, at which our authors, poets, and vocalists, mutually admire each other's talents.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Gov. Fish sustains the position of Premier, or Head of the Cabinet, at an expenditure of at least $10,000 a year above his salary. He is of orthodox Knickerbocker stock; and the services of his father, Col. Nicolas Fish, give him a hereditary right to belong to the Society of the Cincinnati, over the central organization of which he presides as Captain-General. On the door of his carriage, on his silver, and on his dainty note-paper, are his family cresta,—a dolphin and a sea-griffin,—with the motto *Deus Dabit*. He is a rather large, British-looking man, with leg-of-mutton side-whiskers, a stout nose, and a pleasant expression of countenance, especially when he is chuckling over his success in humbugging some verdant newsgather on diplomatic matters. Mrs. Fish is a matronly-looking person, who wears her gray hair in the old-fashioned way, with side curls, and performs the social duties exacted of her with wonderful industry, although there is often a shade of weariness around her light-gray eyes. One of her daughters married Sidney Webster when he was Frank Pierce's Private Secretary; he is now a successful practitioner of law in New York. Another daughter married Maj. Benjamin, of the army, who last year got anchored for life in the peaceful and pleasant duties of the Adjutant-General's Department. Miss Edith remains, a sylph-like, haughty, dark-eyed girl, who should marry a Peer of Great Britain or a German Prince, and who would grace any Court. There are also sons,—one of them, Nicolas Fish, is now United States Secretary of Legation at Berlin; and, when the father was Governor of the State of New York, an artist painted them all, then children, in a fancy group. When the picture was exhibited, an envious but witty artist said sarcastically: "Oh! this is a picture of *sardines*,—little fishes preserved in oil!"

It is the especial social duty of Secretary Fish to

ENTERTAIN THE FOREIGN DIPLOMATS

here, to settle their little disputes on questions of etiquette, and to make them reasonably happy. This week he dined and wined them; and, although his dining-room in the Morgan House is of goodly size, he was forced to make a three days' job of it. So, on Monday, he had the Envoys Extraordinary; on Tuesday, the Ministers Resident; and, on Wednesday, the Charges d'Affaires, with a few personal friends to fill up the gaps. Now, the Senate and House Foreign Committees must next be entertained at dinner, and then the leading members of either House will expect to put their Congressional legs under the Fishes' mahogany. Then Mrs. and Miss Fish must "go the grand rounds" to leave their cards on the wives and daughters of Senators and Representatives, and must be "at home" every Wednesday to receive visits from them and the rest of "society," in return. Verily, the Department of State, although an honorable "posish," costs money, hospitality, and hard work.

JUVENILE FESTIVITIES.

Wednesday was the third birthday of Miss Ethel Robeson, the only child of that jolly season, Secretary Robeson, and his charming wife. The guests varied in age from 2 to 7; and, with the exception of a slight unpleasantness between two demoiselles, caused by a simultaneous desire to fondle the same doll, everything passed off with great decorum. Mrs. Admiral Dahlgren (before mentioned) was the poet-laureate of the occasion, and produced a poem which was read to the assembled loveliness,—not one of them having as yet been taught to decipher chirography. It was called "*A Trois Temps*;" and the three verses were respectively dedicated to Miss Ethel at 3 years of age, at 9, and at 13.

BLONDE VS. BRUNETTE.

This much-discussed-but-never-decided question is now being revived here,—the rival representatives being wives of two foreign Ministers now here. The brunette is Senora Mantilla de Los Rios, of Spain, who is a perfect type of mature Andalusian beauty. She wore, at Secretary Fish's dinner, a white satin ball-dress, with a sweeping train of crimson velvet, both almost covered with rich point-lace, while her black hair was arranged with pearls and diamonds, and each of her solitaire ear-rings was a small fortune. Flashing black eyes, and manners of majestic grace, excited general admiration.

MAIS LA BLONDE!

Austria has sent us, as the wife of her diplomatic representative, Madame la Comptesse de Hoyos, nee Comptesse de Herberstein. He is descended from one of the oldest Hungarian families; and she—a native of Upper Austria—is a true type of Teutonic beauty. Tall, slender, graceful, and spirituelle, she wore a delicate shade of pink silk, elaborately made, and trimmed with rare old point-lace, with sprays of diamonds on her breast and left shoulder, while a costly cluster in her auburn hair flashed the prismatic colors, in harmony with the diamonds which composed her ear-rings, necklace, and bracelets. She has the rare gift of tongues,—speaking German, French, English, and Italian,—and is a rare acquisition to society here.

SLIPS OF TONGUES.

Were it not a violation of the sacred duties of hospitality, I could narrate some curious examples of the difficulties foreigners experience in mastering the English language, and in acquiring an insight into our idioms. Some of our people make equally ridiculous mistakes. The wife of a leading politician blandly told a visitor, a few days since, that she didn't mind having a room on the fourth story of her hotel, as she went up and down in the *ventilator*. And when Gov. C., of Maine, was here during the War, he replied to an inquiry, on his return, as to whether he had seen a certain lady: "Oh, yes! she's all right! She's appointed *maitress* of one of the biggest hospitals."

A JOKE ABOUT GOV. REYNOLDS.

Right here I am reminded of a story told about Gov. Reynolds, whose journey from Illinois here I alluded to in a previous letter. Soon after his arrival here, he said to a colleague: "Of all the places I ever saw, Baltimore is the strangest. I went down to the wharves several times to see the vessels; and there were certainly two freshets that day, but nary a drop of rain." The Governor had to be made acquainted with the tides on the Atlantic coast, which ebb and flow twice in twenty-four hours.

THE PEASANTS' CARNIVAL.

The ladies connected with Epiphany Church have given a two-nights' entertainment to raise money for the purchase of an organ; and, by way of novelty, each table was attended by ladies dressed as peasants of some nation. There were some of higher degree at the American table,—among them Miss Maude Gouverneur, who wore the dress and jewels in which her grandmother, Mrs. President Monroe, was presented to the Empress Josephine; the vivacious lady-correspondent, Miss Augustine Snead, as the Genius of Red-Tape; Miss Julia Richardson as Maud Muller; and Miss Fannie Hunt as Rose Standish. Mrs. Gen. Ricketts, with her usual flow of spirits, was Queen of a Gypsy-Camp, where she and some younger Zingarees told the fortunes of all who crossed their palms with scrip. Some $2.50 was realized, which was more than was expected these hard times.

THE MASONIC ORDER

has always flourished here since Brother George Washington, with gavel, square, and plumb, laid the corner-stone of the Capitol. Scores and

scores of Department clerks are glad to leave their boarding-houses in the evening to "work" in Masonic bodies, and to secure fraternal care when they are sick. The Commanderies of Knights-Templar are especially popular among those Government employes who were in the army, so there is "sogering" enough to keep alive old recollections, without the hard duty and discipline of the volunteer militia. So we have an unusually large number of Encampments, Chapters, and Blue-Lodges, all well attended; while the upper bodies of the Scottish rite flourish under the personal supervision of Gen. Albert Pike and Dr. Mackay.

Just now, the fraternity are discussing some elegantly-gotten-up invitations from the Grand Commandery of Pennsylvania, inviting the Commanderies here to visit the Quaker City on the 1st of June, 1876, when the Grand Encampment of the United States will be holding their twenty-third Conclave there. Every Commandery in Christendom is to be invited; and there will be a larger force in martial array under the banners of the cross inscribed: "*In hoc signo vinces*," than were ever seen on the plains of Askalon, or before the gates of Jerusalem. Broad street, at Philadelphia, will be an admirable place for exhibitions of Templar tactics while on the march; and our Commanderies are determined not to be surpassed in drill.

AMUSEMENTS.

Col. Mulberry Sellers has been delighting the play-goers by his rendition of life in Washington; and no one who has been here when Pomeroy was Senator from Kansas was at a loss to know the original of *Senator Dacoorthy*. The minor parts were wretchedly played, especially that of *Col. Selby*, which has "recalled" to Don Piatt Mark Twain's comment on a like performance at Buffalo. After having endured the miserable acting of this miserable part until it was ended by *Laura's* pistol, Twain drew a long breath, and said: "I thank God that fellow is dead at last! If I had known what an infernal bore he would be, I'd have killed him in the first act."

THE FINE ARTS.

Brady, who has photographed all of our public men here since Jackson was President, and who was relieved of his pecuniary troubles by an appropriation made for his relief by Congress in March last, has arisen like a phœnix from the ashes of debt, and opened a new gallery. Mr. Fassett has also come from Chicago to establish himself here; while Huss made an excellent beginning in portraying our celebrities by painting an excellent portrait of Judge Miller, of the Supreme Court.

RACONTEUR.

CASUALTIES.

ACCIDENTAL SHOOTING.

CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 21.—A fatal accident occurred at Berea, O., Saturday afternoon. Two young men, Joseph Hulse and Asher Wellington, were out hunting. Wellington was walking about 10 feet in advance of Hulse, whose gun, lying across his arm at full cock, was accidentally discharged, the charge entering young Wellington's leg, just below the knee-joint. From the effects of this wound he died at an early hour last evening.

FELL FROM THE CARS.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

RACINE, Wis., Dec. 21.—Last night, as Jerry Lyon, a member of the Soldiers' Home in Milwaukee, was on his way to Rock Island via the Western Union Railroad, he fell or jumped from the train between Franksville and Western Union Junction, and had both legs taken off below the knees. He was taken back to Milwaukee, where he died shortly after.

STEAMBOAT EXPLOSION.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 21.—The steamboat Alice Gray exploded her boiler a few miles above Jefferson City, on the Missouri River, yesterday morning. At the time of the explosion the boat was tied up to the bank, and most of the crew were on shore. One man, Allen Face, was killed.

ACCIDENTALLY SHOT AND KILLED.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 21.—E. R. Baker, a wealthy merchant of California, Mo., was accidentally shot through the left breast to-day by a pistol in the hands of a boy. Upon being shot, Baker ran across the street to a doctor's office, but, upon reaching the door, fell down and expired.

EXPLOSION OF A STEAM-TABLE.

An unpleasant incident of the dinner at a San Francisco hotel on the 10th inst. is thus described by the *Alta*: "A loud explosion, followed by piercing shrieks of agony from the kitchen, startled the guests in the Lick House dining-room at 6:30 o'clock last evening. Everything was in confusion in a moment; ladies turned pale, and many gentlemen rushed to the scene of the explosion, to find Thomas Connelly, James Donohue, Lawrence McDonough, Michael Lyon, waiters; Barton Flavier, steward; and Leon Degen, cook, writhing in agony on the floor, and escaping steam filling the atmosphere. To turn off the steam was the work of an instant, and the injured men were removed upstairs, and their wounds dressed. Donohue suffered the most, having been scalded in both eyes, in the face, breast, and abdomen. Connelly received severe scales in the face and eyes. McDonough was scalded in the face, and on the breast and arms, and the others in the face and eyes and on the breast and body. When the accident occurred the injured men, together with some other servants of the house, were standing in front of the steam heater (which is used to keep meats hot), waiting to be served with the orders they had brought from the dining-room. Without warning of any kind, an explosion occurred, which tore off part of a cast-iron plate half an inch through and nearly 4 feet square, hurling it in the air—cutting a great hole in the window-sash thereof, and falling on the steward's shoulder. Meats, knives and forks, and debris were scattered in every direction. The men who were injured were standing directly in front of the steam heater, and received the escaping steam full in their faces, while others who were standing near escaped uninjured. It is claimed by the hotel management that the pressure of steam used for heating meats is not great, and that the explosion is due to the inferior quality of the iron in the plate over the pipes. This is the second accident of this nature that has happened at the Lick House within a year, and the plate which was wrenched from its place last evening was put in the heater but a few weeks since. It is mentioned as a suggestive fact that there was no steam gauge connected with the heater, and that it was not possible to form a correct conclusion in regard to the exact pressure of steam at any given time. The general impression of the guests of the Lick House was that the accident was the result of gross carelessness. It was feared at a late hour last night that Donohue's injuries would prove fatal, and a priest was sent for, who administered the sacrament."

FINANCIAL.

THE DETROIT FAILURE.

Detroit Tribune, Dec. 19.

Messrs. D. A. Ross & Co., lumber merchants and manufacturers, failed yesterday and made an assignment for the benefit of their creditors to Messrs. W. E. Wariner, George A. Ross, and John J. Speed. Their liabilities are estimated at a little over $300,000, and their assets, if they could be converted into cash at their real value, would not fall far short of $400,000. These, however, consist very largely of incumbered real estate, and to realize anything near a reasonable amount of money under existing circumstances is entirely out of the question. It is to be regretted that this firm have been compelled to suspend, as Detroit can ill afford to lose them or their business. They have been among the most enterprising business men in Detroit, and but for the panic would unquestionably be on a good footing to-day. The senior member of this firm commenced in a limited way some twelve or fifteen years ago, upon a borrowed capital of $50, and gradually worked himself into a large and lucrative business, and became one of the leading manufacturers of dressed lumber in the Western country.

PROVIDENCE.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Dec. 21.—The Committee to examine the affairs of the Providence Tool Company engaged in that work to-day and adjourned until to-morrow, when a report is expected. It is understood that the Company showed about $1,400,000 assets in excess of liabilities. The President of the Company to-day received a communication from nearly all the 1,800 employes expressing sympathy and good will for the Company, and voluntarily proposing to relinquish all claim to wages due for December, amounting in the aggregate to about $90,000.

A FINE PLACE FOR SAVINGS.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Dec. 21.—The savings bank of Hines & Company closed its doors this morning, and they have made an assignment. The assets of the institution are $44,092.85; liabilities, $28,505.25. It is not known what caused the failure, but it is rumored that a speculation in bridge and railroad stock was the cause.

FOREIGN.

Gen. Jovellar Appointed Captain-General of Cuba.

List of Senators Elected by the French Assembly.

Sixteen Lives Lost by a Steamship Collision on the French Coast.

Mount Vesuvius Evidently Preparing for a Christmas Bust.

The Murderer Wainwright Hung at Newgate, London.

SPAIN.

VALMASEDA'S SUCCESSOR.

MADRID, Dec. 21.—Gen. Jovellar, the Minister of War, has been appointed Captain-General of Cuba, and, with Ceballa, will shortly leave for Cuba. Gen. Quesada will be appointed Commander-in-Chief of the armies of the North.

CORRECTION.

MADRID, Dec. 21.—The statement that Gen. Ceballos will go to Cuba proves to be untrue. He will succeed Gen. Jovellar as Minister of War.

MADRID, Dec. 22.—Gen. Echagon has been appointed to the command of the Army of the South.

DIED.

MADRID, Dec. 21.—Gen. Caballos De Rodas, formerly Captain-General of Cuba, is dead.

FRANCE.

SENATORS ELECTED.

PARIS, Dec. 21.—The following were elected members of the French Senate to-day: Admiral de Montsignac, the Minister of Marine, and M. Leon Maleville, member for Tarn et Garonne, of the Left Centre. This completes the list of Senators so far as the National Assembly is concerned, seventy-five members having been elected by that body. The other members, 225 in number, are to be elected indirectly by the people of the several departments.

New York Tribune.

The French Senate is to be composed of 300 members, of whom 225 are to be elected indirectly by the people of the several Departments, and 75 are to be elected by the National Assembly. Of the latter, 72 have been chosen since the balloting began on the 9th inst. There remains only three vacancies, which will doubtless be filled to-day. The following table gives the names of the new Senators and the parties which they support. The Left, who number 24, are avowed Republicans. The Lavergne group and Left Centre, 30 in number, are sincere supporters of the Republican Constitution, but are to a great extent unpledged; they are active opponents of the Bonapartists. The 12 members of the Centre Right and Legitimist factions are in favor of monarchy, but some of them were elected by the aid of Republicans, and are not actively hostile to the Constitution. The six Senators from Orleanist Centre Right are adherents of the Orleans family, but are men of merit who may be expected to support loyally the Republic so long as the Government is efficient and patriotic. The Duc d'Audiffret-Pasquier and Minister Wallon in that list might be more properly regarded as converted Republicans. The single Bonapartist is an adherent of the Napoleon dynasty.

LEFT—24.

M. Duclerc,	M. Le Royer,
M. Ernest Picard,	M. Humbert,
M. Jules Simon,	M. Fourtand,
Gen. Frebault,	M. P. Morin,
Gen. Billot,	M. Scherer,
Gen. Chareton,	M. Carnot,
M. Lanfrey,	M. Tolain,
M. Hampont,	M. Littre,
M. Cazot,	M. Scheurer-Kestner,
M. Testelin,	M. Corbon,
M. Magnin,	M. Edmond Adam,
M. Laurent-Pichat,	M. V. Schoelcher;

THE LAVERGNE GROUP AND LEFT CENTRE—30.

M. de Lavergne,	M. Gauthier de Rumilly,
M. Luro,	M. Calmon,
M. Denormandie,	M. Martel,
M. Tribert,	M. Corne,
Admiral Fothnau,	M. Gouin,
Admiral Jaures,	Gen. Chabron,
Gen. Chanzy,	M. E. Laboulaye,
M. Casimir Perier,	M. Cordier,
M. Barthelemy Saint-Hilaire,	M. Foulon,
M. Leon de Maleville,	M. de Chadois,
Marquis de Lafayette,	M. Barthauld,
M. Jules de Lasteyrie,	M. Lejosne,
M. Roger du Nord,	M. de Tocqueville,
M. Berenger,	Gen. Letellier-Valaze,
M. Krantz,	M. Wolowski.

EXTREME RIGHT AND LEGITIMISTS—11.

Marquis de Franclieu,	M. Pajot,
Comte de Cornuller-Inchiere,	M. Thery,
Count de Treville,	M. Dumon,
Count de Douhet,	Gen. d'Aurelle de Paladines,
M. de la Rochette,	Viscount de Lorgeril,
M. Kolb-Bernard,	Count de Douhet.

ORLEANIST CENTRE RIGHT—6.

Duc d'Audiffret-Pasquier,	Admiral Fourichon,
Gen. Changarnier,	Mgr. Dupanloup,
M. Baze,	Minister Wallon.

BONAPARTIST—1.

M. Herve de Saisy, Cotes-du-Nord.

STEAMER SUNK.

BORDEAUX, Dec. 21.—The steamship Louisiana, from the West Indies, sunk in the Gironde River, after a collision, and sixteen persons were drowned, including the Captain.

BORDEAUX, Dec. 21.—The steamer Louisiana sunk in ten minutes after she was struck. The steamer Gironde rescued 100 of her passengers and crew. All the persons drowned were passengers except the Captain.

FIRE IN BONAPARTE.

LONDON, Dec. 22—7 a. m.—The *Standard's* Paris dispatch says Prince Pierre Bonaparte has issued an address as candidate for the Chamber of Deputies from Corsica.

ITALY.

VESUVIUS GRUMBLING.

NAPLES, Dec. 21.—Mount Vesuvius shows a gradual increase of fire and smoke. The instruments in the observatory are in motion, and Prof. Palmieri predicts a long period of eruption.

CENTENNIAL COMMISSIONER.

ROME, Dec. 21.—Signor Blanc, Italian Minister to Washington, has been nominated Centennial Commissioner.

GREAT BRITAIN.

A MURDERER HANGED.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—Henry Wainright, who was convicted of the murder of Harriet Lane, in Whitechapel road, in this city, was hanged at Newgate. Just before he was pinioned, he handed the Governor of the prison a written statement, which he desired to be made public. In this paper he acknowledges the justice of his sentence, though he does not explicitly admit that he murdered the young woman.

THE DYNAMITE EXPLOSION.

A HOST OF VICTIMS.

LONDON, Dec. 22.—A *Times* special from Berlin says it is now ascertained that the total number killed by the explosion at Bremerhaven is 128, and of the wounded 56. The Bremen Aid Committee reports that 20 of the injured are hopelessly maimed, and there are 56 widows and 135 orphans of victims of the disaster, for the benefit of whom it proposes to raise a subscription of $75,000.

PORTUGAL.

INSURRECTION AT ST. THOMAS.

LONDON, Dec. 21.—A special from London states that a Portuguese gun-boat has been ordered to the Island of St. Thomas, in the Gulf of Guinea, on account of an alleged insurrection of negroes.

AUSTRALASIA.

ADVICES FROM NEW SOUTH WALES, NEW ZEALAND, ETC.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 21.—The Sydney (N. S. W.) *Herald* of November 19 says:

The New South Wales Parliament opened on the 16th inst.

There is a fair activity in the mining districts, but water is scarce in many places. The copper and tin mines are producing well.

The rainfall in Sydney and the coast district is very light.

Crops were poor in the southern country, although the season was favorable. From the pastoral districts the returns are generally encouraging. A heavy yield of wool was anticipated.

At Victoria, the Ministerial elections were over, and the new Commissioner of Mines and Solicitor-General were defeated by the Catholic vote not coming up to the standard required by the priesthood.

The Chinese question continues to attract much attention, particularly from a moral and social standpoint.

The Chamber of Commerce recommends the adoption of the postal-card system, and it will probably be soon introduced.

Exhibits for the Philadelphia Exposition will be sent per Skerryvore direct to New York at the end of the month, and those of South Australia and Tasmania at the same time.

The Queensland Railroad surveys were being pushed vigorously.

Mr. Mackey, the Commissioner to the Centennial, at his farewell banquet, stated that he proposed to travel extensively in the United States, and become thoroughly acquainted with their producing interests.

New paying quartz-lodes are reported daily.

The South Australia Parliament opened on the 10th inst.

Port Adelaide proving insufficient for the shipping requirements of the colony, measures were being taken for increased harbor accommodations.

The prospects of the coming harvest were unusually promising.

The Tasmania Parliament opened Oct. 26, rejected the public-works scheme, and was prorogued on the 3d inst.

The New Zealand Parliament was prorogued on the 21st of October. The session was unsatisfactory, scarcely anything being done of public benefit.

A serious disturbance with the natives has taken place at Auckland.

THE NORTHERN POWERS.

PRINCE GORTSCHAKOFF IN BERLIN—RUSSIA, PRUSSIA, AND AUSTRIA IN ACCORD—THE EASTERN QUESTION.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Pall Mall Gazette* writes to that journal on Dec. 21: "Prince Gortschakoff arrived here on Monday evening, after a sojourn of several months in South Germany and Switzerland. He took up his abode as usual with his friend Baron Oubril, at the Russian Embassy. After having paid his respects on Tuesday morning to the members of the Imperial family, Prince Gortschakoff called at noon on Prince Bismarck, with whom he conferred for an hour and a half. Bismarck returned his visit immediately, and then proceeded from the Russian Embassy direct to the palace for an audience of the Emperor. After the dinner to which Bismarck had invited the Austrian Ambassador, Count Carolyi, who had only returned on the previous evening from a long leave of absence, the two Chancellors met again. At their special request Count Carolyi, who has lately passed some time with Count Andrassy at Terebes, and is intimately acquainted with the latter's intentions, took part in the conference. On Wednesday at noon Prince Gortschakoff was received by the Emperor. The audience lasted nearly three hours. Before the departure of the Russian Chancellor for St. Petersburg at 10:30 p. m., he and Prince Bismarck had another long conversation. I learn from competent authority that the alliance of the three Northern Empires has been strengthened anew during Gortschakoff's stay at Berlin. The understanding between the three Imperial Courts on all leading questions of European policy is complete. The reception accorded to Prince Gortschakoff was exceedingly hearty. The irritability displayed this spring in German Ministerial circles, on Prince Gortschakoff so ostentatiously proclaiming to the world that the settlement of differences between Germany and France was due to the interference of Russia, seems now to have entirely disappeared. The political discussions of the diplomatists were as a matter of course chiefly directed toward the Eastern question, which, owing to the late purchase of the Suez Canal shares by England from the Khedive, has been again brought prominently into the foreground. The opinion expressed by the Northern Empires in the transfer of these shares is, I can positively assert, in England's favor. A previous understanding between England and foreign powers on the subject was impossible, owing to the necessity of effecting the purchase immediately. The world cannot, therefore, speak of a long premeditated step. There was no time for long reflection, fears being entertained that the Khedive, like Turkey, would be obliged to declare his bankruptcy—an event of sad import to English bondholders. The reasons for their action have been confidentially communicated to foreign powers by the British Cabinet.

"With regard to the solution of the Eastern question intended by the three Emperors, I am informed that the Count Andrassy has already sent to the St. Petersburg Cabinet the proposals with the elaboration of which he was intrusted on account of his thorough knowledge of Turkish affairs, acquired during his long exile in Constantinople. These suggestions are sure to receive the consent of the two Imperial Governments, and will then be laid before the other great powers for approval. They refer not merely to the guarantee for the execution of reforms to be made by Turkey, but contain positive proposals regarding these reforms."

GRANT AND THE METHODISTS.

Bishop Haven's Third-Term Nomination Discussed.

Cincinnati Gazette, Dec. 21.

The Methodist preachers of this city met at the Preachers' Room, in the Book Concern, yesterday, in their regular weekly meeting, and, on the suggestion of the Rev. Mr. Lee, his resolution, introduced at the last meeting, censuring Bishop Haven for the famous indorsement of President Grant before the Boston ministers, was taken from the table for discussion.

The Rev. J. F. Conrey occupied the chair. In bringing the matter before the meeting, the Chairman ruled that so much of the resolution as expressed judgment of censure on Bishop Haven and the ministers of Boston, was out of order, and therefore not before the meeting, for the reason that neither of these parties was on trial before the body.

Mr. Lee appealed from the decision of the Chair, but the meeting, after a discussion, sustained the Chair by a vote of 14 to 9.

The Rev. A. B. Leonard offered the following substitute for the original resolution:

Resolved, That we disapprove of the course pursued by Bishop Haven and the Boston preachers' meeting in practically favoring a recommendation of President Grant for a third term.

The Rev. D. J. Starr also offered the following as a second substitute:

Resolved, That the secular press in mistaking the expression of Bishop Haven, in his Boston speech, of his personal preference for a re-election of President Grant for a third term, as an ecclesiastical expression, or in any way representing or committing the Methodist Episcopal Church, or any part thereof, to any political movement, is guilty of a gross error, and that it has done great injustice to our denomination.

These substitutes, and all papers bearing on the subject matter, were then referred to a committee, composed of Thomas Lee, W. I. Fee, J. M. Walden, W. Young, and W. L. Hypes, with instructions to report a paper for the action of the meeting. The Committee, after a short absence, returned the following:

Resolved, That while we, as a body of ministers, decline to express an opinion in regard to the election of a President to a third term, we do deeply deplore the course of Bishop Haven before the Boston preachers' meeting in suggesting the renomination of President Grant.

Resolved, That we, as ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, are unalterably opposed to any interference by ecclesiastical bodies with the partisan politics of the country.

The reading of the report was followed by a lively debate, in which nearly all present participated. The sallies of wit with which the speakers interspersed their remarks were all keenly appreciated. As a rule, they kept to the resolution, but any indication to launch out into a discussion of the third term was promptly nipped in the bud.

Mr. Lee advocated the resolutions. He thought Bishop Haven was altogether out of place when he gave utterance to the sentiments attributed to him. It was just and proper that he be rebuked.

Mr. Rothweilder desired to know why Bishop Haven was singled out and all the blame put upon him. Why not include the Boston preachers in the censure? They, it was asserted, had indorsed the Bishop's position, even going so far as to vote upon it.

Dr. Walden explained that the Boston preachers, according to *Zion's Herald*, had not indorsed that part of the Bishop's speech referring to a renomination of President Grant, but what he had said about the importance of our Church and educational work in the South. He favored the resolution before the House, because, since the matter had come up, we must take some action. Bishop Haven had measurably committed the Church by uttering those sentiments where he did. Had he uttered the same sentiments in his private study, as did Bishop Simpson, they would have been merely the utterances of the citizen, and, as such, legitimate and proper, and nobody would have had a right to take exception to them.

Mr. Leonard thought we were only aiding the "tempest in a teapot" by taking any action at all. Bishop Haven had committed nobody but himself, and even if he had committed an offense, this body had no business to call him to account; that was the prerogative of the General Conference. Nor need we come to the rescue of the Boston preachers. The Hub was abundantly able to take care of itself.

Mr. Wahl thought we had better take no action, as any action we might take would be misconstrued.

The Rev. William Young thought the Bishop had no right to compromise the Church. Such things had been done before, and even here in this place, and it was time that our Bishops be given to understand that when they placed the Church in a false position they would be rebuked.

Dr. Hight protested very strongly against anything being done in the matter. Bishop Haven had frequently given utterance to radical and extravagant ideas that we might regret, but which it would be unwise for this preachers' meeting to call him to account for.

Dr. Rust thought the Church was by no means a unit against a third term, yet he would not be understood as expressing an opinion; indeed, he protested that he had expressed no opinion.

Mr. Arthur made a few remarks squinting toward a third-term nomination of President Grant, which, however, were declared out of order by the Chairman, as not pertinent to the question before the meeting.

Mr. Hypes said the Church had been wounded and hurt by the injudicious utterances of Bishop Haven. We were placed in a false position before the people, and owed it to ourselves and the Church to set ourselves right. We were put on our defense by the action of one of our Bishops, and must disclaim his right to inflict such a wrong upon the Church.

Mr. Murray could see no wrong the Bishop had inflicted upon us or the Church. He confessed the Bishop had not hurt him. Bishop Haven, as an American citizen, had a right to his opinion, and he had only made use of that right. That was all there was of it.

Dr. Muller could not see that Bishop Haven had done any wrong, and the proper thing for this meeting to do was to do nothing.

Mr. Cranston also thought there was no call for any action by this meeting, as any action would be misconstrued. Bishop Haven spoke for himself, and that he had a right to do.

Mr. Ketchum offered a substitute for the original report of the Committee to the effect that too much importance had been attached to Bishop Haven's remarks with reference to the nomination of President Grant for a third term by the secular press; that he had no authority, and did not represent the Methodist Episcopal Church in this matter; that this preachers' meeting deprecates his remarks on the above subject as injudicious, and as giving cause for misrepresentation of the Church with regard to party politics.

Mr. Krehbiel thought that to take any action on this matter would only place the meeting in a false position. It looks too much like an admission that Bishop Haven's utterances on the question of a third term were authoritative, and that the Church is bound thereby, unless we put in a disclaimer. For one, he was not prepared to make such an admission. Again, was it not assuming too much to say that Bishop Haven, owing to his official position in the Church, had no right to give expressions to his own private opinion in this matter. He could not see what right this preachers' meeting had to dictate to Bishop Haven any more than he had to dictate to this meeting. He expressed his own individual opinion, that was all. Nor could the speaker see that the fact that the Bishop gave utterance to that opinion before the preachers' meeting altered the character of his remarks in the least. He favored letting the whole matter rest.

Upon motion, the subject was laid over till next Monday.

FIRES.

AT MARION, IND.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

HARTFORD CITY, Ind., Dec. 21.—Last night at Marion, Ind., a large planing-mill owned by Gillians & Sale, and a chair and furniture factory owned by O. H. Kellers, were destroyed by fire with all of their contents. Loss about $12,000; no insurance.

AT SPENCER, MASS.

BOSTON, Mass., Dec. 21.—This morning, the boot shop of Bush & Son, at Spencer, Mass., was burned, together with four houses adjoining. The loss is estimated at over $100,000. Bush & Grant have an insurance of over $35,000.

COLLIERY BURNED.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., Dec. 21.—The New Philadelphia Coal Company's colliery at New Philadelphia, owned by New York parties, was burned this morning. Insured.

AT LITTLE ROCK.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 21.—The *Gazette* reappeared as usual this morning. The proprietors will order a new office at once and rebuild.

OCEAN DISASTERS.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—During the past two weeks we have had intelligence of many fearful accidents by land and sea. I begin the terrible record of calamities by mentioning the loss of the Sunnyside, on the Hudson River, when twenty bodies were buried in a watery grave. The case of the Deutschland, lost in sight of "Old England," is still more painful, and demands a thorough investigation, as ocean-steamships, with but few exceptions, would appear to be neither more nor less than graveyards. In the sad explosion near the steamship Mosel, at Bremerhaven, over sixty lives found an untimely end, not speaking of others who are seriously and permanently injured. Other calamities on a smaller scale have occurred. I was glad to observe that a writer signing himself "Berti" had called the attention of the public to ocean-disasters. When he pointed out that, by skill, judicious management, and carefulness, ocean-accidents might be avoided, he pointed, as I know, with a high degree of accuracy and truth, to the fatal disasters that have befallen the Irmian, the Anchor, and the White-Star Lines. The City of Boston and others belonging to the aforesaid lines have left painful impressions on the hearts of many whose dearest friends found an untimely grave. The Anchor Line's record is awful,—hundreds and hundreds of lives having been engulfed in the fathomless sea; and, as Berti says the Cambria and the Hibernia are only two of the many of their fleet that are lying rotting in the desert of waters. The Atlantic, lost off Halifax, left many a vacant hearth, and be dimmed with tears the lustre of many an eye.

The question will arise in the hearts of many. When will such catastrophes cease to take place? Is it negligence or downright carelessness that these disasters are of nearly daily occurrence? It is impossible to enter into the feelings of those who have been bereaved of their friends,—far less to estimate the amount of misery and suffering thus caused. If these disasters could really be called misfortunes, arising from circumstances which could not be foreseen, and over which there was no control, it would be a different thing; but such is not the fact. In almost all cases of the kind an attempt is made to exonerate the responsible party from blame, and hand down to posterity such disasters as among the chapters of accidents, or as the result of a mysterious Providential interposition; but, when careful inquiry is made, they too often are found to be the result of negligence. This is emphatically true in some of the cases I have spoken of; and the duty arising from ascertained and undeniable facts is palpable and imperative. The Sunnyside was badly built and badly managed when the accident occurred. The Deutschland was evidently out of her course, or she would not have struck upon a rock in moderate and open weather. Where the laws of life and nature are violated, the usual penalties must be expected. In every case I have mentioned, doubtless there was an infraction of the simplest rules and of the most obvious dictates of common sense; and the wonder is, have been if suffering and death had not followed.

It is very deplorable; but the lesson taught is, that, by Government officers and the servants of public firms, still greater care should be exercised. Yet public duty remains the same; and, by wise regulations to begin with and the rigid enforcement of them, the risks which are incurred on the sea ought to be reduced to a minimum.

ALLY.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP NEWS.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 21.—Arrived, the Pacific Mail steamer Vasco de Gama, from Sydney, via Honolulu.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Arrived, steamships City of Brooklyn, from Liverpool, and C. F. Freseh, from Antwerp.

BOSTON, Dec. 21.—Arrived, steamship Siberia, from Liverpool.

LIVERPOOL, Dec. 21.—Steamships Italy, Klopstock, and Victoria, from New York; Prussian, from Portland; and Atlas, from Boston, have arrived out.

SUICIDE.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 21.—George S. Hamilton, a clerk in the Treasurer's office of the Indianapolis, Cincinnati & Lafayette Railroad, shot himself in the head some time last night, and was found this morning in a dying condition. Cause, unrequited affection. He threatened to do so on a previous occasion in the presence of the young lady, but she disarmed him. He was a native of Canada.

The Quincy Chief of Police yesterday arrested a youth named Randall on board the incoming Chicago train, who, it is alleged, was trying to get away from his home in Chicago.

CRIMINAL NEWS.

Trial of Embry, the Man Who Shot Col. Anthony at Leavenworth.

A Man Killed in a House of Ill-Fame at Saline, Mo.

Account of a Bloody Tragedy Recently Enacted in Putnam County, Tenn.

The Stupendous Villainy of Finney, of Pittsburg, Pa.

HOMICIDE IN A BAGNIO.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 21.—A dispatch from Saline, Mo., states that an unprovoked murder was committed near that place last Sunday night. Two young men of that town, D. E. Young and Maj. Gibbs, while visiting a house of ill-repute, became engaged in a quarrel, when Young drew a revolver and shot Gibbs. The ball, entering near the stomach and ranging upward, lodged near the left shoulder-blade. Gibbs, after being shot, attempted to leave the house, but fell at the door. Medical aid was summoned, but he died next morning. The Coroner's jury were of the opinion that it was a clear case of murder. Crime is reported to be rapidly on the increase in that portion of the State. Murder and rape are of frequent occurrence.

MEMPHIS MUNICIPAL IRREGULARITIES.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 21.—Mayor Lague, in an interview with a *Ledger* reporter this afternoon on the subject of the charges made by his late clerk, Davis, as reported to the Council last night, says he seeks investigation, and will give all the aid in his power to the Committee; and, furthermore, that if the Committee could by any means implicate him in the charges, he ought to be in the Penitentiary; but he felt confident of his own integrity, and if any person was implicated he was in favor of punishing them to the extent of the law.

THREE YEARS.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SIOUX CITY, Ia., Dec. 21.—In the case of O. F. Odell, recently on trial at Yankton, charged with assault with intent to kill Abel Stafford, the jury rendered a verdict of guilty. A motion for a new trial was made by defendant's counsel. Arguments were heard by the Court yesterday, and the motion overruled. Odell was to-day sentenced by Judge Bennett to three years' hard labor in the Fort Madison (Ia.) Penitentiary.

ROBBED AND MALTREATED.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 21.—Frank Rich, a German laborer, was found lying in the mud at the base of the bridge near the city to-day. Rich stated that the night previous, while at the bridge to fulfill an engagement, he was assaulted and robbed by highwaymen, who, after obtaining his money, threw him from the bridge to the ground below. Rich was seriously wounded, and could not recognize the men who assaulted him, and therefore no arrests have been made.

CARRIED OFF THE SAFE.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 21.—David Wilhelm's store in Brownsville was robbed on Monday night of $1,000 worth of dry goods. A 1,300 pound safe was also carried away. It contained only $50, however, of money. No trace of the thieves. Buffalo detectives are working up the case.

ACQUITTAL OF ONE PERSON, AND SENTENCE OF ANOTHER.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

LANSING, Mich., Dec. 21.—In the Montcalm Circuit Court, Jerry Stall was acquitted of killing Georges Amidon, the deed being found justifiable; and Abraham Kirkland was sentenced to three and a half years in State Prison for assault with intent to commit rape.

TRIAL OF ANTHONY'S ASSAILANT.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Dec. 21.—The trial of W. W. Embrey for the shooting of Anthony commences in the Criminal Court to-morrow morning. The trial will probably last about a week. It is the general impression that Embrey will be discharged.

THE FORT WAYNE MURDER CASE.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

FORT WAYNE, Ind., Dec. 21.—In the case of Wall, the negro murderer, condemned to death, arguments on a motion for a new trial were concluded to-day. Judge Borden reserved his decision.

A POLYGAMIST SENTENCED.

SALT LAKE, Utah, Dec. 21.—George Reynolds, the polygamist, was to-day sentenced by Chief-Justice White to two years' imprisonment and to pay $500 fine, but was released on $10,000 bail during his appeal to the Supreme Court.

CHARGED WITH FORGERY.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

CAIRO, Ill., Dec. 21.—A man named Wallace was arrested here this evening and committed to jail on a charge of forging the signature of his late employer to a couple of checks and disposing of them.

INDICTED FOR MURDER.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—The Grand Jury of Kings County has indicted Rabenstein for the murder of Sarah Alexander.

A TENNESSEE TRAGEDY.

Nashville American, Dec. 18.

C. J. Bohanan, Deputy Sheriff of Putnam County, with a posse, brought here for safe keeping last night George and Joseph Branswell, charged with killing Russell and John J. Allison two weeks ago last night.

The two Branswells lived within a mile of the Allisons' house, and had constantly associated with them. It was not known that any ill-feeling existed between them.

On the night mentioned, long after all in the Allison house had retired to rest, some men knocked at the door and cried out, "Halloo!" They stated that they wanted supper. A Mrs. Isbell, who also lived there, called down Russell Allison from the upper story, and he went to the door with a candle. He had barely opened the door before he saw revolvers presented at his body, and he was shot through the abdomen. They then fired at young Allison's mother, a bullet barely grazing her head. At this moment some one came down the stairs. The assassins, fearing there were more in the house than the family, beat a hasty retreat.

Though the Branswells had given other names, their voices were recognized both by young Allison and his mother. One of them had a handkerchief over his face, while the face of the other had been blackened. Yet, in this disguise and their clothing turned wrong side out, Russell Allison recognized them, and said so upon his death-bed. He exclaimed, when he opened the door: "Why, it's 'Ted' and Joseph." When Allison was shot he grasped the pistol, and a struggle ensued, lasting until the Branswells heard footsteps upon the stairway, and decamped. In his dying declaration he said he was not aware that he had an enemy in the whole world.

The next night after the shooting an officer went to arrest the Branswells, who were at the distillery. Jo Branswell was lying down. His brother came out directly and told him to bring a light, and said: "Look out; I am arrested." George ("Teek") remarked, "I am coming to you or die." With pistol in hand he came into the still house. The crowd at once gave back. With the assistance of John Allison, Russell Allison's brother, the officers succeeded in arresting Branswell. At that moment, however, Branswell placed his derringer against Allison's abdomen and fired, the ball taking effect within an inch of where his brother was shot.

The Allison brothers died within an hour of each other, and were buried in the same grave. The people were so incensed against their assassins that it was thought best to bring them to Nashville. The Branswells have long been regarded as desperate characters, and are still supposed to have been dealing in counterfeit money. Three cards, with which they had played three-card monte, were found upon their persons at the jail last night.

THE KANSAS SCHOOL-BOND FRAUD.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 20.—The Kansas City *Times* has special advices from Topeka to-night that go to the true inwardness of the startling frauds just developed upon the school fund of the State, and which tend to show that State Treasurer Lappin was not only cognizant of them, but was, in fact, the perpetrator of them. The *Times* in the morning will publish all the official correspondence relating to the matter, and also a copy of the bogus bonds and the forged signatures, as well as copies of Lappin's official bonds for $1,700,000, and the names of his securities. It will be apparently shown how detectives, under instruction from the School-Fund Commissioners, have ferreted out the fraud and traced it to Lappin. It is established by the evidence of the Assistant Postmaster in this city that Lappin called for the mail directed to J. S. Kibby at this place, and when Winner, the Assistant Postmaster, went to Topeka to identify Lappin he was suddenly taken sick and remained in his room. Similar identifications have been worked up at St. Joseph and other points, at all of which, as well as this place, Lappin's name appears on the hotel registers on the very days when the mail matter was delivered.

The clew to the whole matter consists in the fact that under the law the State Treasurer is not allowed to pay out money for school bonds unless the party presenting the same is fully identified. The Fund Commissioners negotiate for the purchase of bonds and give orders on the Treasury for the money. In these instances Lappin, who is supposed to be the seller of the bogus bonds, got an order from the Fund Commissioners and then paid out the amounts as State Treasurer, without identification of course. The affair has created the most intense excitement in Kansas, and the unconditional surrender of Lappin in his resignation is considered as conclusive of his guilty connection with the frauds.

TOPEKA, Ks., Dec. 21.—There have been no new developments in the forged school bond matter to-day. The Attorney-General has been busy drawing up papers to commence suit against Lappin and his bondsmen. Mr. Francis, to whom the office of State Treasury has been tendered by the Governor, arrived here to-night. There has been no official acceptance of the office, but it is generally understood that he will accept.

A PITTSBURG SWINDLER.

*Correspondence New York Herald.

TAXATION.

Discrimination Made Against the National Banks.

What They Intend Doing About It.

The tax-collection exploits of Mike Evans in the South Division do not promise near so well as the hopeful Mike anticipates. He looks forward to well-filled coffers; but he may be disappointed as to the amount of wealth he may possess next spring. The city tax on National Banks has not yet been collected for 1874, and there will probably be a long legal fight before it is paid. It is not because the National Banks refuse to pay it. They say they are willing to pay all they are assessed, not that they are entitled to the same justice that other banks, not National, are. They claim that they are assessed to

THE FULL AMOUNT OF THEIR CAPITAL STOCK,

while State, savings, and private bankers are only taxed on a small—often very small—proportion of their actual capital invested. The National Bank officers hold that this is manifestly unjust. The law under which they were organized provides for local taxation, but that law explicitly says that the taxation shall be uniform, and that National Banks shall not be discriminated against. In order to show how the banks are taxed,—State, National, and private,—the assessment for this year is given, as made by the Assessor, to which the State Board added 52 per cent, and also the tax levied, which includes State, county, city, town, and park taxation. The table is as follows:

ASSESSMENT FOR 1875.

	Capital.	Assessment.
First National Bank	$400,000	$95,470.70
Third National Bank	300,000	19,165.48
Fourth National Bank	80,000	5,094.78
Fifth National Bank	250,000	12,737.48
Merchants' National Bank	200,000	12,734.96
Northwestern National Bank	200,000	12,734.70
Commercial	200,000	12,735.44
Union	400,000	25,469.53
City	100,000	6,367.74
Mercantile Bank—R. T. & Co.	520,280	33,127.73
Corn Exchange National Bank	200,000	12,734.74
National Bank of Commerce	100,000	6,368.83
Traders' National Bank	80,000	5,093.91
Preston, Kean & Co.	12,835	817.26
Hibernian Banking Association	8,000	509.40
J. M. Adsit	565	35.00
Central National Bank	80,000	5,094.51
National Bank of Illinois	200,000	12,735.74
German National Bank	200,000	12,735.72
Bank of Montreal	42,000	2,674.27
International Bank	35,000	2,228.55
Hide & Leather Bank—State B'd	25,291	3,603.66
	40,000	
Union Trust Company	3,288	209.39
Illinois Trust and Savings Bank	42,472	2,704.32
State Savings In.—State Board	173,084	9,784.64
	29,800	
Fidelity Savings Bank	21,000	1,337.14
German Am'n B'k—State Board	16,648	3,553.47
	44,855	

EXAMPLES.

The above comprises a list of the South Side Banks, as taken from Mike Evans' assessment books for 1875.

This tax is equal to 6.36 per cent and more on the capital stock represented for State, county, city, park, and town purpose, which they claim is a discrimination against them; as no other property within the State is taxed proportionately as high, and least of all State banks and private bankers.

IN ORDER TO PROVE THIS,

the following figures are presented: The Merchants' Savings, Loan, and Trust Company, has an actual capital of $1,500,000. It is represented as such on the Assessors' books as having but $520,280. Preston, Kean & Co. are represented as a firm with a small capital,—$12,835. According to their own statements, they claim to have $100,000 invested in their business. The Hibernian Banking Association is represented as a small institution with but $8,000 capital, when it has $125,000 cash paid in. J. M. Adsit must do a very limited business on a capital of $565, according to the Assessor. Mr. Adsit claims to have $100,000 capital, at least, invested in his banking business, and he would probably sue the man for slander who said he had less, yet he allows the Assessor to say so, and is content to pay but $36 as a personal tax.

A FOREIGNER.

The Bank of Montreal Agency represents but $42,000, when it really has much less than $100,000, and is a foreign institution besides. The poor International Bank is represented as having but $35,000 capital, when it has $500,000 paid up, and a goodly amount in surplus besides. The Union Trust Company is content to represent but $3,288, when it really has a paid-up capital of $125,000 and a nice little surplus. The Hide and Leather Bank is satisfied to be credited with but $40,000, when it has an authorized capital of $300,000. The Illinois Trust and Savings Bank is credited with but $42,472, when it has in reality a capital of $500,000. The State Savings Institution is also poor according to the Assessor, and has only $39,800. It has, however, $500,000 paid in and a fair surplus, all of which it alleges in printed prospectuses. The poor Fidelity Savings Bank is put down for but $21,000. It has $200,000 paid-up capital, and a goodly surplus on hand besides. The German-American Bank is credited with $44,855, when it has $164,000 capital stock paid in.

It is sometimes said by way of explanation that these private bankers contrive to have all their money converted into United States bonds on the last of May of each year, thereby escaping taxation. They may assert that they do this, but it is an expensive an operation as to pay the tax. To call in all one's money on the 1st of May, whether it be loaned on real estate or notes, to buy bonds, and then in a week to sell those bonds and reinvest the money, is too expensive an operation to be done every year, and probably nobody really resorts to it.

APPARENT INJUSTICE.

These figures clearly show that all the banks are not taxed alike, and that injustice is done the State Banks. These figures could be as easily have been obtained by the Assessors as by THE TRIBUNE reporter. The capital of State banks is as easily gotten at as the capital stock of the National Banks. Some weeks ago the bank Presidents held a meeting at which this whole matter was considered. They appointed Messrs. Eames of the Commercial, Blair of the Merchants, and Coolbaugh of the Union National Bank, a committee to consider the whole matter, and to obtain legal advice. They have had consultations with Mr. M. W. Fuller as their counsel, but as yet no definite plan of action has been determined on. It is understood, however, that the banks will oppose the city personal tax of 1874, as unjust, and on this will hinge the collection of the tax for 1875, including State and county, which are assessed in a lump with the city taxes this year, and are about 15 per cent higher than they were last. The bank Presidents all express a perfect willingness to pay these taxes, providing they are equalized with State banks and private bankers.

OUTRAGEOUS ASSESSMENT.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—This morning I received a notice from the Collector to pay my personal property tax. Last summer an Assessor assessed my stock in my shop at $300, and now I find myself taxed for $800. This has not been done by mistake, but willfully, for I spoke to several small business men, and they appear to make the same complaint. I am a shoe-card writer, and keep only a single show cards on hand; but the amount of $300 is a very high estimate for my stock of goods, for I could assure any person capable of judging correctly (and certainly an Assessor should be qualified to do so), that my whole stock of goods, if necessity should compel me or my family to sell it, would not bring the above named sum of $300.

Now if this is the case, at what other conclusion can I arrive than that I am robbed? I defy the assessing authority (thousands of others will do the same) to come before my face and theirs and justify their actions against me and the small business men, and if they will not do it, then infamy and shame may cover their name.

A. STEMPEL.

ANOTHER SUFFERER.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—I would like to know, and not only I but many others, what is the meaning of the following document which I received by mail from Collector Evans, and which runs thus:

——, you are hereby notified that the State, county, and City of Chicago taxes upon your personal property, $50.96, are now due and payable at my office, No. 1, City Hall. Now, therefore, &c., &c.

Now, I am less well off than I was last year, and this is a copy of the receipt I received last January:

Received of —— the sum of $4.50, State, county, city, and South Park taxes.

Now, sir, to my certain knowledge there are some seven or eight parties on State street, who in this season of general stagnation of trade are called upon to pay ten times the amount of their taxes last year. There is, sir, a damnable fraud somewhere. Write it *damnable*, distinctly and emphatically. Will THE TRIBUNE kindly oblige its patrons by looking into this matter? D.

LAZZARO SOCICA.

A Chief for the Herzegovinian Insurgents.

Correspondence London Times.

CETTINJE, Nov. 18.—It would seem to be probable that the Herzegovina insurrection has at length found its head, and that a man capable of wielding the hitherto disunited forces has come to the front. The chief of Piva, Lazzero Socica, has shown in various operations an innate military capacity and variety of resources, which, together with what was already known here of his energy and devotion to the liberation of his country, as well as a certain magnetic enthusiasm which gives him absolute control over his followers, entitle him to the first place among all the chiefs. He is a young man of considerable means for this country, almost the only Christian landed proprietor of the mountain country about Dormitor, and for several years exiled and a resident of Montenegro.

He commenced his operations on a small scale in the raids and attacks of the mountain country about Piva, and then attacked and destroyed the smaller blockhouses in that section, finally capturing all except the fortress of Goransko, which has artillery. The last taken, that of Bezoue, was garrisoned by 105 men, and was taken by a bit of native engineering worthy recording. Socica constructed a huge house on wheels, one side being left open, and, with a number of men, worked it up—in spite of the musketry fire, which was unable to penetrate the loge—until it was in contact with the wall of the blockhouse, when he began mining the wall, and the garrison immediately surrendered. The troops taken were sent to Goransko, after a detention sufficient to show them that the Insurgents were capable of treating their adversaries with humanity.

IN THE BATTLE OF MURATOVIZZA,

which we still lack complete details of, he controlled the largest forces yet collected by the insurrection, and his victory, though not so complete as it would have been had his plans been carried out, is of sufficient importance to justify us in considering it the most disastrous to the Turkish arms in these Provinces since Grahovo. The object of the expedition of Selim Pasha was to reinforce Goransko, which he reduced nearly to extremities, and afterwards to go to Niksics. The road to Grahovo, after passing that which branches off to Niksics, goes through an elevated plain, then through a difficult pass, and descends slightly to the position of Garansko. This pass was the point chosen by Socica to oppose the expedition, and here, with his own corps, he began the fight on Thursday. Selim, finding that the road could not be forced, fell back to the plain, which is sufficiently large to prevent the fire of the Christians doing much harm from the hills around, to compel them to expose themselves more or less to the Turkish fire if they attacked. In this position the battle was fought, and the insurgents (according to the most intelligible information I can get), having possession of the road behind the Turks, the latter intrenched themselves and waited for the attack of the Christians. The total Insurgent force was about 1,000 at the beginning of the affray, that of the Turks being stated at 3,000 regulars, with artillery and irregulars. The battle of Thursday was renewed on Friday, when, all the different Insurgent bands having got together and rested, an attack was made on all sides, which lasted all day. Selim Pasha, satisfied that it was impossible to force his way through either pass, left a detachment of 300 to 400 men to hold the barricade, and kept up a hot fire all night, while he made a movement to attack in another direction, and, favored by a fall of snow which completely concealed his maneuvre, stole away to Gatschko, leaving his rearguard to their fate. With the light, the Christians made another attack and forced the barricade, the greater part of its defenders being put to the sword, and some of the chieftains arrested the carnage, and saved the lives of about 100 men, who no longer made any resistance. Under cover of night, Selim, with the remainder of the force, reached Gatschko, where, we hear, he is organizing in all haste another army, composed of all the available forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina, regular and irregular, to relieve Goransko before it is reduced by famine. The Christian losses were fifty-seven killed, including one superior Chief, Vuli Hajics, and six inferior, and ninety-six wounded. That of the Turks is not yet known with certainty, as they had not been counted when the last messengers left for Grahovo (whence we have the news by telegraph); but 500 heads and noses had already been counted, and the telegrams from Grahovo state the whole number of killed, with the wounded, at not less than 800. The practice of decapitating the dead enemy, universal in all Montenegrin wars of the past, is losing its hold on the popular estimation, and there are those among the Insurgents who oppose it in every way possible in a state of society where it is of traditional sanctity, and where both sides follow it as the rule of warfare.

The rifles, ammunition, and provisions taken will be a great assistance to the Insurgents in their preparation for the defense of the passes against the new attack for which they are prepared, the number of men under arms at and near the locality being capable of being brought up to 6,000 on emergency, including the bands already engaged, which are put pretty definitely to-day at about 3,500, or 4,000, according to another estimate. The defense will be made on the same ground, and I am informed by those who know the ground that any flanking movement on a considerable scale is impossible, the pass being near the Montenegrin frontier, with high mountains on both sides. The number of breech-loaders landed at Satorina some time since, and which I put in a former letter at 200, were really, I learn from unquestionable authority, 600, and quantities of ammunition have been landed at the same place during the week. The practice with wooden cannon hooped with iron at Niksics lately has been, I am told, very good, and these may enter into the new defenses of Muratovizza.

THE FORTRESS OF GORANSKO,

which was the object of the struggle, is the strongest in the country about Piva, and is held by a garrison of 600 men, besides being the place of refuge of the Kainakan of the district. Negotiations for its surrender have already been opened, but the terms asked by the garrison—free sortie, with arms and artillery—are not acceptable to the Insurgents, who want the arms more than the fortress. The garrison is on half rations, and has provisions enough to last ten or fourteen days at that rate, according to the late commander of the fort of Bezue, from whom I had the above details this morning.

MONTENEGRO.

The news of the victory has naturally much excited the Montenegrins, and it will be very difficult, if not impossible, for the Prince to prevent numbers of his people, especially the young men not yet encumbered with responsibilities which make them dread confiscation, and not overpowered by any prudential consideration, from joining the Insurgents in the coming struggle at Muratovizza. The Prince, although he is very strongly pressed by all the friends of the insurrection, including some who in their official expressions would have decisive influence, thus far holds very obstinately to his refusal to authorize any movement from his frontiers; and I have found no reason to believe that the number of Montenegrins in the ranks of the Insurgents much exceeds the 400 which both the Prince and Ljubibratich long ago assured me was the approximate number in Herzegovina. They have begged in vain for a single gun to enable them to reduce the blockhouses; Prince Nikita remains absolutely obdurate.

An equally strong and more gratifying demonstration of the feeling of the Montenegrins towards the Herzegovinians is shown in their conduct consequent on the withdrawal of the Austrian supplies of provisions. On this fact becoming known, the whole population of the Principality came forward at once and volunteered to take charge of the refugees at their own expense. On the day of my ride from Cattaro I found all the men of my different localities gathered together to enroll their names, so that the refugees might be divided among them in proportion to their means, and that the burden, distributed over the whole country, may enable it to pass the winter without serious embarrassment even if Russia does not take up the load thrown off by Austria. The ultimate effect of this measure must, however, be to increase the war feeling in Montenegro, and already I find the Prince very much more inclined to listen to energetic counsels than when I was here before. He has said plainly to me within two days that if Servia would join he would declare war without hesitation, and without the advice of certain of the great powers who have hitherto restrained him.

Six Million Dollars in Eggs.

New York Sun.

Three freight cars containing $6,000,000 worth of silk-worm eggs arrived at St. John's Park Depot on Tuesday. They had come from Hong Kong to San Francisco in twenty-three days, and thence to New York in less than seven days, the speed being faster than the mails are carried by the same route. This uncommon cargo is going to Italy and the south of France, and could have reached its destination quicker and at less cost by way of the Suez Canal, but it has been found useless to ship them that way because the Southern climate hatches the eggs.

The silk-worms are put upon long sheets of cardboard in China, and are left until each board is covered with eggs, which are about the size of mustard seed. The eggs stick to the cards, which, interlaid with sheets of paper, are packed in wooden boxes, tightly closed, and wrapped in canvas and matting. In this shipment there were 647 cases, containing over 100,000 cards. The cases were transferred yesterday to the Hamburg steamer Frisia, which will sail for Europe to-day. When the eggs reach their destination, they will be stored in vaults, secure against warmth, until the mulberry trees on which they feed have grown their foliage.

COL. GOWEN'S CLAIM.

Dealings with High Officials in St. Petersburg and Washington City.

New York Sun.

Col. John E. Gowen, the American engineer, who is treating with the British Admiralty for the contract of raising the iron-clad Vanguard, sunk in the British Channel, in 1862 completed the great work of raising the Russian fleet in the harbor of Sebastopol, and presented his bill for payment. The demand was for $35,000 roubles, which is equal to about that number of dollars in greenbacks. The Grand Duke Constantine, Lord High Admiral, from whom Col. Gowen received the commission, approved the claim and ordered it paid. It was handed to Gov.-Gen. Glazinapp, who recommended that bonds be issued for the amount. Minister of Marine Krabbe, however, thought it too small a sum to be paid in bonds, and proposed to pay the money in ten years in annual installments. The Colonel would not agree to this.

"Well, the Grand Duke has ordered that you be paid," said the Minister, "and we'll have to find you the money; but my budget is made up and I don't see exactly how it is to be managed. You'd better go abroad and travel for a month, and when you come back your money will be ready for you."

A month later the Colonel again presented himself to the Minister.

"Well, sir, you've done a pretty thing, haven't you—raised hell in my department?" was the Colonel's greeting from Krabbe. "You and your paltry 16,000 roubles. I was your friend, but understand henceforth I'm your enemy, and shall oppose you even getting one dollar of your claim."

The 16,000 roubles matter referred to was a claim of which some officers of the Marine Department had tried to defraud him, and, before leaving St. Petersburg, acting upon the advice of Assistant Minister of Marine Gregg, he had laid the facts of the case before the Minister of Justice, who made them a subject of complaint to Krabbe, and hence the latter's anger.

"If you don't pay me," said the Colonel, "I'll have to see his Imperial Highness, the Grand Duke Constantine, about it."

"You may go to the devil, if you like; but you'll never get a dollar if I can help it," was the reply.

Col. Gowen wrote the Grand Duke, saying that he had not been paid, and requesting an audience. What followed is best told in his own words:

"An aide-de-camp called upon me with the message from the Grand Duke that I should be paid before I left St. Petersburg, and requesting me to call at his palace before 9 o'clock the next morning. On arriving at the palace I was shown into the Grand Duke's apartments, where, to my surprise and annoyance, I found him conversing with the Minister of Marine, my declared enemy. The Grand Duke arose, shook hands with me, and said: "Col. Gowen, I have had a higher opinion of you than of any other foreigner who has ever come to this country, and I am very sorry that you should come here a second time to be paid."

"Why, your Imperial Highness, I have never been paid one cent," I replied.

"The Minister tells me he has paid you," said he, turning to Krabbe.

"He has been paid. I paid him myself," said Krabbe, throwing a significant glance at me.

"No, sir—you know that I have not received one penny," I exclaimed.

"I cannot allow this altercation in my presence," said the Grand Duke—

"But, your Imperial Highness, I assure you—" I continued, when he interrupted me, saying:

"Col. Gowen, whom do you suppose I would believe,—you, a stranger, whom I have known only a few years, or a Minister of the Empire?"

"It is not necessary to believe either of us," I said. "If I have been paid, surely there is some record of it in the Department. Have the books examined, your Imperial Highness,—they will tell the story."

"No, sir," he said, rising, "this audience is at an end," and I was bowed out.

Col. Gowen has not been paid, having received no other rewards for his valuable services than the thanks of the Crown and the decoration of the Order of St. Stanislaus. He has made frequent applications to Secretary Fish for an official letter in his behalf to our Minister at St. Petersburg, requesting, at the same time, the facts before the Imperial Government, but Mr. Fish has refused to interfere. The Colonel brought strong influences to bear upon him, and, at one time, had some hope of success, but the Fish-Catacazy trouble followed, and he has now abandoned all hope of help from the incumbent Administration. The injustice of his treatment is well known in European diplomatic circles. Prince Gortschakoff, whom he met in Baden, told him that he knew him to be one of the worst-used men in the world, but could not help him, and Lord Palmerston once, speaking of the claim, said to him: "If you were a British subject, Colonel, I promise you, you would not have to wait long for your money."

Fatal Diseases Among Horses and Cattle at the East.

Philadelphia Press.

For several days past another epidemic has prevailed among horses in this city. The new disease is pronounced by skilled veterinary surgeons to be "Aptha Zartica," or eruptive. The disease is stated to be even more contagious than the epizootic, and unless it is arrested at once will prove fatal. In several instances in large stables where one horse is attacked, the disease spreads rapidly through the stable, and very few animals coming in contact with those affected escape. The first symptoms of the disease are noticed by a peculiar expression of the countenance, saliva flowing from the mouth and moisture exuding from the eyes. In some cases it is accompanied with troubled breathing and considerable fever. Upon opening the mouth of an animal stricken with this malady will be found small vesicles on the edge and upper portions of the tongue and gums. On the third or fourth days' illness large patches of the covering of the tongue drop off, and the animal refuses food. The disease, as other eruptive fevers, whether in man or beast, runs a fixed course, and the eruption cannot safely be arrested unless proper remedies are immediately applied, together with good nursing, which adds materially to the speedy recovery of the animal, which may be effected in from six to ten days. At a recent meeting of Pennsylvania College of Veterinary Surgeons the nature and treatment of the new disease were discussed by a number of the new members, all of whom pronounced the disease to be contagious, and advised that the sick horses should be kept apart from those which had not taken the disease. An epidemic that slay broken out within the last few days on the outskirts of the city and in Camden among the hogs and cattle, which is somewhat similar to "Texas fever." Among hogs the disease has proved fatal, as in some cases the farmers have lost, in a few hours, from 60 to 70 per cent of their stock. In Camden and its immediate vicinity the stock has more or less been attacked, and many hundreds of hogs and cattle have died. At the present writing the disease has not been arrested although every known remedy has been applied. For the purpose of ascertaining the nature of this new malady, a Committee of five veterinary experts are holding council, and will in a short time suggest a remedy to abate this new and fatal disease.

An Ancient Royal Coach.

A Paris correspondent writes: "While demolishing an old house at Montmartre and clearing the site for the Church of the Sacred Heart, the workmen made an interesting discovery: they found that the walnescoting of one of the rooms was composed of wood elegantly carved and gilded. The various pieces, when put together, showed that it was an old royal coach, whose panels had been used 'to stop a hole to keep the wind away.' There is no knowing how this relic of the ancient *regime* came to be employed for building purposes, though the probabilities are that some Brutus or Aristides of the revolution of '93 seized upon the royal equipage, and contemptuously used the materials wherewith to construct a dwelling. Nor is there any clue to show to what epoch the gilded coach belonged. It may have been the coach into which Louis XIV. told Lord Star to step; Mme. de Pompadour may have ridden in it; it may have served at the wedding of Marie Antoinette, or have conveyed Louis XIV. to the scaffold. The panels are said to prove that the coach was very old, but it could not well have been before the fifteenth century, for in 1405 the only suspended coach which existed belonged to Queen Isbeau, and under Francis I. there were only three, one of which belonged to the Queen, another to Diana of Poitiers, and the third to Jean de Laval. According to Dalaure, there were a good many coaches in Paris in 1563, and the Parliament petitioned the King to prohibit them, as they took up the whole street, and splashed ladies and gentlemen riding to court. Toward the end of the reigns of Henry IV., Basstompierre had a carriage built with door and windows."

JUDGE VAN BRUNT'S MARRIAGE.

Wedded in the Presence of a Hundred Persons—The Bride's Mother's Story.

Rochester (N. Y.) Evening Express, Dec. 13.

The present aspect of the Van Brunt scandal is very serious for our former townswoman Jennie Bull, or Mrs. Van Brunt. Judge Van Brunt has returned to New York City, and, as appears by the following paragraph from a New York newspaper, denies his marriage *in toto*:

Judge Charles H. Van Brunt arrived in the city Wednesday evening, and yesterday visited his associates on the bench in the Judges' room of the Supreme Court and Court of Common Pleas, and announced his intention of holding court in some branch of the Court of Common Pleas in January. The story of the marriage Judge Van Brunt says is a lie. He has not been married while abroad, nor were any of the irregularities charged committed by him. He left for Europe in May, and from the middle of June to the middle of October he lay in his house at Paris, unable to leave on account of the sickness. For two months intervening, from the middle of June to the middle of August, he was entirely unconscious, and this was the period that rumor had assigned for his second marriage.

There can be no doubt that a marriage ceremony was performed on the 2d day of June last, in Cambridge, England, in which Judge Van Brunt was the bridegroom and Miss Bull was the bride. This ceremony was witnessed by Miss Bull's mother, who is a lady highly respected in this city, and whose word cannot be doubted. The clergymen who performed the rites (the Rev. Messrs. Banham) are relatives of a family in this city, and are ready to make affidavits to the fact of the marriage. If the maarage was illegal, Judge Van Brunt must have known it. It matters not whether Miss Bull suspected the illegality of the marriage or not. We have reliable information, however, that for a long time she refused to marry the Judge, and did not consent until she was thoroughly satisfied that the divorce from his first wife was genuine.

Since the above was written our reporter visited Mrs. Bull's residence, 15 Greig street, and obtained from her the following statement in regard to her daughter's marriage:

The marriage took place on the 1st of June, in the presence of about 100 persons, twenty-five at least of whom were relatives of our family, in Cambridge, England. I was present. For my own part, I do not believe that Judge Van Brunt has ever denied the marriage; but I deem it my duty to make this declaration: If he has denied the marriage (which for a moment I do not think he has), it can be proved by the affidavits of all of our relatives in Cambridge, some of whom we are sure, if necessary, would appear in person to testify. I am confident there is a mistake somewhere in this statement of the denial of the marriage. My own opinion is that the Judge does not wish to be interviewed, and will consequently give the reporters no satisfaction when interrogated.

The fact that Mrs. Van Brunt (Jennie Bull) is living with her husband in New York to-day is a fact that in itself shows the assertion of a denial to be absurd. We are of the opinion more than ever that it is the duty of Mr. and Mrs. Van Brunt to put a stop to these scandalous stories by publicly denying their truth.

Tweed's Fifth Avenue Retreat.

New York Correspondence Cincinnati Enquirer.

Reference has frequently been made to Tweed's relations to a certain Mrs. McMullen, residing on the corner of Fifth avenue and Forth-fourth street, where it was supposed he was for a time in hiding. It has been for years notorious that relations of a very intimate character existed between the great Democratic chief and this woman, who has been enrichened by him and to whom he made over a part of his property. An old chum of Tweed gives me a little history of Tweed's intrigues with women and his relations to this woman. Many years ago, while School Commissioner, "Big Six" made the acquaintance of a pretty school-teacher named Garrett, that resulted in her placing herself under his protection. For years she was, it is alleged, his mistress, but one day Tweed saw Mrs. McMullen, and, smitten with her fine physique, he longed for fresh fields and new pastures. How to get rid of the Garrett woman was what puzzled him. He had, as one of his political supporters, the same Tom Field who subsequently became celebrated as a Ring thief, and who is now a fugitive in Canada. This fellow had married into the family of a very respectable retired builder named Smith, and won thereby one of the noblest women of the metropolis. She was abused by him, and finally she obtained a divorce. After various intrigues Field capped the climax of his infamy by debauching the daughter of his own sister. This was the dirty fellow who came to Tweed's rescue, and for a consideration he took Miss Garrett off the Boss' hands, and ever afterward remained a tool of Tweed and his henchman in the Legislature. Tweed took Mrs. McMullen all to himself, and, up to the time he was committed to Blackwell's Island, was her devoted lover. It is even declared that while in prison he was allowed to visit her. She has been made a party in the civil suits by the State, and it is believed that after his escape he spent at least one night at her house. Miss Garrett, his discarded mistress, it is said is still living with Field in Montreal, where "loquacious Tom" is a clerk in a tobacco warehouse. It is notorious that Miss Garrett owns considerable property, which it is believed, was purchased with money stolen from the city.

He Loved Her and She Loved Him.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

William Russell fell senseless to the floor while attending a prayer-meeting at Worcester the other evening, and the trouble was found to lie in the fact that the girl he loved best had been caged by her parents to prevent him from having an interview with her. A vigorous shaking brought him to his senses.

BUSINESS CHANCES.

A FORTUNE FOR A PARTY CONTROLLING $5,000 cash, stock speculation at Chicago. The undersigned, who, having valuable connections, success is rendered absolutely certain. Address at once Tribune office, P. O. Box 5018, New York City.

A GROCERY STORE FOR SALE, WEST SIDE, stock complete; will take horses in part payment. 421 Western-av.

BUSINESS CHANCE—IF YOU WANT TO BUY, sell or trade for a business, with stock of goods from $1,000 to $30,000, call upon us; get our monthly record. THOMAS & CO., 194 Clark-st., Chicago.

FLOUR MILL TO RENT—GOOD LOCATION IN Ohio; engine and boiler in good condition, now doing a good business; rent cheap. OLIVER BESLY, 167 Washington-st.

LUNCH COUNTER IN FIRST-CLASS BILLIARD-hall for sale cheap, East Side; good location. Address M 61, Tribune office.

ONE OF CHICAGO'S FIRST-CLASS SALOONS for sale, proprietor going out of the business. Apply at 16 State-st.

PEDDLING WAGON, HORSE, HARNESS, AND stock of tinware making $50 a week net profits, will sell the whole with license, owing to a death. THOMAS & CO., 194 Clark-st.

TWO-SET WOOLEN MILL IN OPERATION, STEAM power, brick buildings, for sale at a bargain. For particulars address ATKINSON & TOPLIFF, Pittsfield, Ill.

$1,400 WILL BUY A FIRST-CLASS MANUfactoring business, well established; profits from $250 to $300 per month; stock and tools worth the amount asked for business; good reason given for selling. Those who want a nice and sure-paying business can address immediately, I 58, Tribune office.

HORSES AND CARRIAGES.

AUCTION SALES OF HORSES, CARRIAGES, and harness every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, commencing at 10 a. m., at WESTON & CO.'S Auction Rooms, Nos. 196 and 198 East Washington-st. Stock on hand at private sale. Ample time given to test all horses sold under a warrantee.

FOR SALE—OWING TO THE DEATH OF W. H. Jr.—Three, one very handsome black mare, 15¾ hands high, 6 years of age; can show better than 2:50; warranted sound and kind. Also, one small pacing-mare, 15 hands high; can show better than 2:50; warranted sound and kind, and is a real good family or business horse, and everything complete with them, and a real nice basket phaeton to be sold as a reasonable figure, together or separate. Apply to the groom at the barn in rear of 560 Wabash-av.

FOR SALE—CHEAP, ALL KINDS OF WORK and driving-horses; warranted sound; one week's trial given. New and second-hand buggies, made by Coan & Tenbrock, Willet, George L. Bradley. Horses, buggies, and harness to let. All kinds of delivery and express wagons by the day, week, or month at very low rates. Money advanced on horses, buggies, and harness at 257 State-st.

FOR SALE—SEVENTEEN HORSES AND MARES, suitable for country; must be sold to-day, if not will sell this week at auction for what they may bring; owner leaving city. Inquire at coal-office 42 Harmon court.

FOR SALE—NEW SQUARE-BOX TOP BUGGY AT half its value for cash. J. H. SOLLOM, carriage-trimmer, rear of 175 West Adams-st.

FOR SALE—ONE PAIR 1,200-POUND HORSES, several single horses; one 1,150-pound mare, with foal, to exchange; farmer should have her. 68 West Monroe-st.

HORSES WINTERED AT RIVERSIDE AT $1.50 per week. GEO. F. WINGATE.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS.

ADMINISTRATOR'S SALE OF HOUSEHOLD FURniture, Thursday, Dec. 24, 2 p. m., at 259 West Erie-st. Great bargains.

BARGAINS IN FURNITURE.
HANDSOME PARLOR SUITS,
$60, $65, $75, $90, $100.
HANDSOME CHAMBER SUITS,
$50, $60, $80, $100, $125.
MARTIN, 124 State-st.

THE UNION FURNITURE COMPANY SELL black walnut chamber sets for $25. Everything in proportion. Time given on the payments. 343 West Madison-st.

AGENTS WANTED.

AGENTS WANTED—TO SELL A PATENT ARTIcle that sells at sight in every family. Call or send 10 cents for sample. JACKSON & CO., 125, 125, and 127 South State-st.

CITY REAL ESTATE.

FOR SALE—THE BUILDING OF THE TEUTONIA Life Insurance Company, on southeast corner of Washington-st. and Fifth-av. This property affords a splendid chance for safe and paying investment; is being situated in the best business locality and well rented. Inquire at Room 4 in the building.

FOR SALE—COTTAGE ON LEASED GROUND, 5 years' lease, within 3 minutes' walk of Court-House. Also market doing a good business. Call as or address 179 West Monroe-st.

FOR SALE—SEVERAL BRICK HOUSES, MODern improvements, barns, etc., in good locality, at a bargain if taken immediately. Address I 9, Tribune office.

FOR SALE—75x187, EAST FRONT, ON MICHIGAN-av., between Twenty-fifth and Twenty-sixth-sts.; price, $225 a foot; one-third cash, balance 1, 2, and 3 years, with 8 per cent interest. Inquire of JACOB BEIDLEMAN and GEO. A. SEAVERNS, 146 Dearborn-st.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE—A VERY DESIRAble residence lot on North side, east frontage, with 60 feet of land, 25 unimproved. GEO. H. ROZET, 102 Washington-st.

FOR SALE—RESIDENCE AND BUSINESS PROPerty on all parts of the city. Call on E. S. W. G. McCORMICK, Rooms 1 and 2 Reaper Block.

SUBURBAN REAL ESTATE.

FOR SALE—MORGAN PARK—C., R. I. & P. R. R.; 13 miles; 45 minutes; 15 cents fare; $65 commutation per year; seven trains each way daily; also Saturday night and Sunday trains. The Park a growing suburb on the eastern slope of the elevation selected by the Government for the site of Lake Forest University, now building. Artesian well water supplied free. School facilities unsurpassed. Mt. Vernon Academy for boys. A young ladies' seminary and the public school. Houses built to order, and sold on time. Cottages and houses now completed and for sale. Neat cottage, $150 cash and $20 per month; handsome cottage, $500 cash and $30 per month. The Company employ their own Architect and Superintendent, and build only in a substantial and durable manner. Free ride to visit property every day before 12 o'clock. GEORGE R. CLARKE, Agent, 79 Washington-st., Commerce.

FOR SALE—EXCELLENT LOTS NEAR THE CITY limits, at Brighton, for $350, close to cotton-mill, smelting works, and new Alton & St. Louis Railroad grounds; $25 down, and $5 monthly for balance. REA & COATES, Room 8, 99 Washington-st.

REAL ESTATE WANTED.

WANTED—CHOICE RESIDENCE PROPERTY IN exchange for clear property and cash. Address L 68, Tribune office.

TO RENT—HOUSES.

TO RENT—HOUSES IN ALL PARTS OF THE CITY, 4-story and basems. to, $30 to $75 per month; 3-story and basements, $20 to $100 per month. R. S. & W. G. McCORMICK, Rooms 1 and 2 Reaper Block.

TO RENT—NEW BRICK HOUSES, MODERN IMprovements, nice location, near Lincoln Park; also, suites at $18, $20, $25, $30, $35, $40, and $50. WILL L. DAVIS, 158 East Randolph-st.

TO RENT—FURNISHED HOUSE, 620 WEST WASHington-st., near Union Park; brick; all improvements; rent taken in board; immediate possession.

TO RENT—ROOMS.

TO RENT—FURNISHED ROOMS, WITH OR WITHout board, at Nevada Hotel, 168 and 170 Wabash-av., near Monroe-st.

TO RENT—WELL-FURNISHED WARMED ROOMS, $5.50 to $7 per week. Religio-Philosophical Publishing House, 127 Fourth-av., two blocks south of Post-Office.

TO RENT—AT 45 PECK-COURT, ROOMS FURnished or unfurnished, with or without board.

TO RENT—SOME NICE UNFURNISHED ROOMS for light housekeeping. Call on JOHNSON & STOVER, 75 East Lake-st.

TO RENT—FURNISHED ROOMS, THOMPSON House, 163 South Clark-st.; transients taken. Office E.

TO RENT—FURNISHED ROOMS, ALL FRONT. Young men can find a comfortable home at reasonable prices. 111 Fifth-av., northeast corner Monroe-st.

TO RENT—A PRIVATE FAMILY HAVE A WARM front room, well furnished, for one or two gentlemen. 41 South Carpenter-st., near Washington.

TO RENT—CHEAP, TO GOOD TENANT, BRICK dwelling containing 10 rooms, 68 Thirteenth-st. Apply to P. BARRY, 638 Clark-st.

TO RENT—1 HOUSE OF 4 ROOMS, $8 PER month; 5 rooms, with water in kitchen, $10; 3 rooms, $6 per month, at 158 West Harrison-st.

TO RENT—A VERY DESIRABLE RESIDENCE ON North Clark-st., east and west through; parlor, sitting-room, bedroom, bath, water-closet, dining-room, and kitchen on first floor; five rooms and ample closets on second floor; rent, $35. Inquire at 194 Clark-st.

TO RENT—14 ELDRIDGE-COURT, IN MARBLE front, to gentleman and wife or two gentlemen, a large nicely furnished room, with fire, gas, closet, and bath-room; $20 per month. Good table board.

TO RENT—STORES, OFFICES, &c.

TO RENT—ROOMS 6 AND 7, 115 MADISON-ST., 40 feet front, 50 deep. Apply at Room 6.

Miscellaneous.

TO RENT—BASEMENT 84 AND 86 STATE-ST.; also rooms on second, third, fourth, and fifth floors in same building. Apply to SHAY, FRENCH & CO., 84 and 86 State-st.

WANTED—TO RENT.

WANTED—TO RENT—BY MAY 1, STORE SITUated between South Water and Madison-sts., Michigan-av. and Clark-st. Address M 27, Tribune office, stating size of store, location, and rent.

FINANCIAL.

A.—TO LOAN—MONEY ON CHICAGO PROPer

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AMUSEMENTS.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Halsted street, between Madison and Monroe. "The Two Orphans." Afternoon and evening.

ADELPHI THEATRE—Dearborn street, corner Monroe. "Forty Thieves." Afternoon and evening.

HOOLEY'S THEATRE—Randolph street, between Clark and LaSalle. California Minstrels. Afternoon and evening.

NEW CHICAGO THEATRE—Clark street, between Randolph and Lake, Kelly & Leon's Minstrels. Afternoon and evening.

McVICKER'S THEATRE—Madison street, between Dearborn and State. Engagement of Baker and Farron. "Hedrich and Hettie."

WOOD'S MUSEUM—Monroe street, between Dearborn and State. "Jack Harkaway's Adventures." Afternoon and evening.

SOCIETY MEETINGS.

KEYSTONE LODGE, NO. 639, A. F. & A. M.—Special Communication will be held in their hall, 62 and 64 North Clark-st., this (Wednesday) evening, for the installation of officers and other business of importance. Members are earnestly requested to attend. Visitors fraternally invited.
MORRIS PFLAUM, W. M., pro tem.
BEN F. PRINCE, Secretary.

RICHARD COLE LODGE, NO. 697, A. F. & A. M.—The annual communication of this Lodge for the election of officers and payment of dues will be held at their hall, No. 710 Archer-av., Thursday evening, Dec. 23, at 7:30 o'clock. Every member is requested to be present. By order of
DAVID JOHNSTON, W. M.
L. GRANT, Secretary.

GARDEN CITY LODGE, NO. 141, A. F. & A. M.—The annual Communication will be held at Oriental Hall on Wednesday evening, Dec. 22, for the election of officers and the payment of dues.
H. F. HOLCOMB, W. M.
L. L. WADSWORTH, Secretary.

The Chicago Tribune.

Wednesday Morning, December 22, 1875.

Northwest winds and cooler weather are predicted for this region to-day.

Greenbacks at the New York Gold Exchange yesterday opened at 88¼ and closed at 88¾.

The St. Louis merchants had a gala day yesterday, and dedicated their new Exchange Building with great gusto and much speech-making. It is cheering to note that there was in St. Louis any necessity for a new place to buy and sell things, and that there was enterprise enough to supply the need.

Archbishop WOOD, of Philadelphia, has caused to be read in the churches of the anthracite region in Pennsylvania an archiepiscopal circular formally excommunicating the Society of Molly Maguires,—an organization having for its objects intimidation, violence, and murder.

Judge DYER, of the United States Court at Milwaukee, was yesterday the humble instrument whereby the crooked whisky manipulators, TAFT and WEIMAR, were estopped, the one five and the other eight months, from further blocking the wheels of the revenue establishment. An aggregate assessment of $4,000 accompanied His Honor's mandate.

The Dominion Government has proposed a new basis of union with British Columbia whereby the former shall be relieved of its obligation to build the Canada Pacific Railroad upon payment of a cash bonus of $750,000, which British Columbia may use in constructing local lines of railway. The proposal is to be submitted to the British Columbia Legislature at an early day, and if it is accepted measures will at once be taken in the Dominion Parliament to perfect the union.

Dissatisfaction and discord among the Democratic Congressmen appear to have increased as the printed list of House Committees enables each sorehead to more plainly perceive how badly he has been treated. Washington life has lost its charms for the disappointed and dejected sufferers, and already there is talk of adjourning by the 1st of May. The leaders, however, who have fared better in the distribution of Committee favors, will probably be in no such hurry to break up House-keeping.

The officers of the National Banks in Chicago complain of the gross inequality and injustice of the assessment for city taxes, and not without reason, as appears by the figures given in another column. It would seem that the City Assessors are violently opposed to the whole National Bank system, and have concluded to tax it out of existence. The complaint is, not that the National Banks are assessed too high, but that all other banking institutions are assessed too low; that the National Banks are taxed upon the entire amount of their capital stock, while the State, savings, and private banks are taxed upon but a small portion of their actual working capital. On this account it is probable that the National Banks will resist the collection of the taxes of 1875.

Mr. BILLINGS, President of the West Side Gas Company, expresses himself contemptuously with regard to the new ordinance limiting the price of gas to $3 per 1,000 feet. He takes the ground that the Common Council has nothing to do with the matter anyhow, and, if it had, the ordinance is of no account, as but $2.5 is now charged to people who pay their bill promptly. One statement by Mr. BILLINGS has an important bearing upon the gas question. He admits that the present price is too high, and that gas could be sold much cheaper, but asserts that any reduction is impossible so long as the Common Council persists in compelling the Gas Companies to lay mains and distribute gas along great stretches of vacant lots, where no one lives to burn gas, and where the only purpose is lamp-posts serve is to help the sale of real estate.

The Chicago produce markets were more animated yesterday. Mess pork was in good demand and a shade firmer, closing at $19.05 cash and $19.40@19.45 for February. Lard was quiet and firm, closing at $12.20 per 100 lbs cash and $12.42½@12.45 for February. Meats were more active and firm at 7½@7¾c for box'd shoulders, 10½c for do short ribs, and 10¾c for do short clears. Highwines were quiet and steady, at $1.10 per gallon. Flour was dull and unchanged. Wheat was quite active, and 1½c higher, closing at 97½ cash and 98c for January. Corn was dull and irregular, closing at 47c for December and 43¾c for January. Oats were in fair demand and a shade firmer, closing at 30c cash and 30½c for January. Rye was quiet at 68@68½c. Barley was dull and easier, closing at 86c asked for December and 85c for January. Hogs were dull and lower, the decline averaging 15c per 100 lbs. The bulk of the sales were at $6.60@6.75 for common to good packers' grades. Cattle were inactive and weak. Sheep were a shade lower. On Saturday evening last there was in store in this city 2,085,218 bu wheat, 313,083 bu corn, 389,785 bu oats, 140,889 bu rye, and 324,351 bu barley. One hundred dollars in gold would buy $113.37½ in greenbacks at the close.

The election yesterday for Judge of the Illinois Supreme Court, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Judge McALLISTER, resulted in the success of the Hon. T. LYLE DICKEY, who was by common consent and understanding supported by those who were opposed to Mr. H. B. HURD, the nominee of the Republican Convention. But little interest in the canvass was shown in Chicago, where the vote was exceedingly meagre, falling nearly 45,000 short of the vote cast at the November election. In a total vote of 10,258 in the City of Chicago, Judge DICKEY received 7,629, and Mr. HURD 2,629, the former's majority being exactly 5,000. Returns from the towns in Cook County and other counties comprising the Seventh Judicial District have not come to hand at this writing, but it is probable that Judge DICKEY's entire majority will exceed the figures above given.

ORGANIZATION OF THE HOUSE.

The real work of the House is done in the Committees, upon whom devolve the special examination of the various branches of the public service and the reporting or rejection of schemes for legislation. The announcement of the Committees may, therefore, be regarded as the working organization of the House, and Mr. KERR's selections appear to have occasioned more of a sensation and more disappointment and indignation than any previous organization for many years. One reason for this is, that the House is Democratic for the first time in a lifetime almost, whereas the old Republican House had settled into a very comfortable distribution of favors, and a general acknowledgment of honor where honor was due. Among the Democrats it was a new and greedy scramble for places, and it was difficult for Mr. KERR to make up his Committees without seriously offending a large number on the Democratic side. Another reason for dissension is to be found in the antagonistic elements among the Democrats, including a Union sentiment and a Confederate sentiment, a hard-money sentiment and a rag-baby sentiment, a high-tariff sentiment and a revenue-reform sentiment, an Eastern sentiment and a Western as well as Southern sentiment, a subsidy sentiment and an anti-subsidy sentiment, etc. The most unbecoming exhibition of spleen came from the Eastern members, and was led by little Shoofly COX, of New York. This was at once puerile and unjust,—puerile because it was an unseemly display of temper, and unjust because the selection of Mr. KERR was a Western triumph, and it was not to be expected that its advantages would be resigned in favor of the East. It is not surprising that the West should have twenty-four Chairmanships, while the Eastern have thirteen, especially in view of the fact that the Democrats at the East have not brought forward many men of conspicuous claims.

Mr. KERR evidently remembered the good service done him by the Illinois delegation, led by MORRISON, and has provided committee places for all the nineteen Congressmen from this State, except, perhaps, Mr. HARTWELL, of the Eighteenth District, whose place is not indicated in the telegraphic list. Illinois has the leading position of the House,—the Chairmanship of the Ways and Means Committee, which was given to MORRISON (D.), of the Seventeenth District. It has also three other Chairmanships,—CAULFIELD on Expenditures of the Department of Justice; SPRINGER, of Springfield, on Expenditures of the State Department; and EDEN, of the Fifteenth District, on War Claims. CAULFIELD is also located on the Judiciary Committee, and SPRINGER on Foreign Affairs and Education and Labor. WIKE (D.), of the Eleventh District, is on the Banking Committee; BURCHARD (R.), of the Galena District, on Ways and Means; HARRISON, of Chicago, on Public Buildings and also on the Special Centennial Committee, where the spread-eagle speechifying is to be done; HURLBUT (R.), of the Fourth, on Military Affairs and also on the Civil Service; CANNON (R.), of the Fourteenth, on Post-Office and also on Private Land Claims; SPARKS (D.), of the Sixteenth, on Revision of Laws and also on Indian Affairs; STEVENSON (D.), of the Thirteenth, on District of Columbia; BAGLEY (Indpendent), of the Tenth, on Invalid Pensions; HENDERSON (R.), on Revolutionary Pensions and also on Railways and Canals; FORT (R.), of the Eighth, on Territories and also on Accounts; ANDERSON (L.), of the Nineteenth, on Agriculture and also on the Expenditures of the Interior Department; CAMPBELL (Rag-Baby), of the LaSalle District, on Mines and Mining; and WHITING (R.), of the Ninth, on Public Expenditures and also on the Mississippi Levees. Mr. FARWELL, of Chicago, has been retained only on the Committee on Manufactures, of which he was Chairman in the last Congress, but has been dropped from the Committee on Banking, upon which he held the second place in the last Congress. In view of Mr. FARWELL'S recognized position as one of the best business members of the House, this is a gross injustice. It is very surprising that the Speaker would be guilty of such a glaring discrimination against an old member, and one of the ablest in the House.

Notwithstanding the commotion which Mr. KERR'S selection has occasioned among the Democrats, it looks as though he had made up the Committees with special reference to "sound money, revenue reform, and anti-subsidy," which is known to be his own platform. Perhaps it is mainly on this account that KERR has brought down upon him the wrath of so many Democrats. The only doubt about this appears in connection with the Pacific Railroad Committee, which rumor says is likely to give TOM SCOTT'S monstrous subsidy scheme a "favorable hearing." If there is any danger of this, it is in direct opposition to the character of the Committee as indicated by the vote on the anti-subsidy resolution. Of the thirteen members of this Committee, only three (LAMAR, TARBOX-TON, and O'NEILL) voted against the resolution and therefore in favor of the policy of subsidizing; of the others (LUTTRELL, LYNDE, THOMAS, PHILLIPS, GARFIELD, KASSON, and BLAIR) voted for the resolution and against subsidies, and the remaining three (AIKEN, WALKER, and PRATT) dodged. If those not voting are in favor of the subsidy, there would still be a majority of one on the Committee on record as opposed to all subsidies, of whatever nature. If properly sustained by the anti-subsidy sentiment of the House, this majority can be held to their position on this matter, and TOM SCOTT'S scheme will be defeated. It must be remembered, however, that every indication drawn from the formation of the Committees needs to be verified by the demonstration that the Committees are a fair reflex of the prevailing opinions of the majority in the House. But after the vote of the House against the subsidy business KERR should have constructed an anti-subsidy Railroad Committee. Why did he not?

THE CITY MARSHALSHIP.

The Common Council has at length consummated the folly of confirming the nomination for the useless office of City Marshal. This audacious measure in the interests of the tax-eaters and bummers was championed by Ald. CULLERTON and the blatherskite HILDRETH, and, although their specious arguments were met and compietely refuted by Ald. RICHARDSON, they succeeded in forcing it through with the help of Ald. STONE of the Fourth Ward, WOODMAN, QUIRK, CLARK, CAMPBELL, and DIXON. And now, what have these men given the city? They have given it a useless office at an expense of $4,000 a year,—an office which Mr. DUNLAP, after being confirmed in it, would not hold, because he found it to be an office of obstruction, that he had no useful power, and that he was eating taxes without earning them. If Mr. GOODELL is as honest and honorable a man as Mr. DUNLAP, he, too, will resign it before he has held it a month, for the same reasons. If he continues to hold it, it will be a proof that he is willing to take $4,000 out of the pockets of the taxpayers without really earning 4 cents. The effect of this appointment is simply to restore the how-not-to-do-it Board of three Commissioners. It, in effect, renews the Board nuisance in the shape of a City Marshal, Superintendent, and Deputy, who can act as a Board in all cases of dereliction of duty, no one member thereby having the power to discharge a policeman for misconduct or a police officer for malfeasance or inefficiency, and no one member having the power to appoint good and efficient men. For all practical purposes, we might just as well have Messrs. SHERIDAN, RENO, and KLOKKE back in their seats again as to have these three new MARK SHERIDANS filling their places. One of the strongest reasons offered for the new city charter was that it would simplify offices, and yet, after having abolished one three-headed monster, a new monster is substituted in his place with an equal number of heads. This is what the appointment of a City Marshal is equivalent to. The effect of the appointment is equally apparent. It supplies a partisan office-seeker with a place, and consumes $4,000 of taxes. It furnishes a handy system of shifting responsibility, so that in case of any irregularity in office, or misconduct upon the part of officials, the responsibility cannot be fastened upon any one. The Deputy can hold the Superintendent responsible, the Superintendent the Marshal, the Marshal the Mayor, and the latter can in turn throw it back upon his subordinates, and thus no one will be responsible for anything. It is a measure for partisan purposes and in the interests of bummers. It is intended to cover the election of next spring, to use the police force for political work, and to encourage and shield rascals. It will relax discipline and demoralize the police force. It cramps the hands of the Superintendent, who has shown some disposition to do his duty, and will re-encourage the thieves, and gamblers, and bunko-steerers, and all the criminal classes of the city. It virtually takes the management of the police force out of his hands and leaves it without a real head. And all this that a partisan may hold a useless office and consume $4,000 of taxes! We repeat, therefore, that if Mr. GOODELL is an honest and honorable man, he will throw up the office the moment that he finds he is only a figure-head and his office a sinecure, just as Mr. DUNLAP did. He cannot hold the office and keep his own self-respect or the respect of the community.

"NOT A NATIONAL UNITY."

Senator MCDONALD, of Indiana, in his whereases and resolutions, declares that the "people of the United States . . are not a national unity, in the ordinary sense of that term." And he gives as a reason therefor that "the States were at the time of the formation and adoption of the Federal Constitution each sovereign, free, and independent, except in so far only as such sovereignty had been expressly delegated to Congress by the articles of confederation." We find these statements in the resolutions which the Senator has proposed to take the place of those introduced by his colleague from Indiana, Senator MORTON. His appeal to history is a mistaken one. It hoists the engineer with his own petard.

The "States" were not sovereign when the articles of confederation or the present Constitution was formed. The thirteen colonies were fused into one nation and became "a national unity" when they began the Revolution. Thirteen of the sixteen British colonies in America revolted together and fought together. They carried through the war together as a nation, raising national troops and offering battle in behalf of the nation, under the National Commander, WASHINGTON. Massachusetts and Connecticut did not fight for their separate independence, nor Virginia and Maryland for theirs. All thirteen warred with England for the independence of all thirteen as one nation. England made war, not against "Rhode Island and Providence Plantations," Delaware, and other petty communities, but against all the colonies as one people in revolt. France aided the "rebels" as a rebellious nation. So did Spain. So did Holland. These powers, with Germany and Russia, recognized the independence of one new nation, not thirteen new ones. They recognized the birth, across the seas, of a new National Government. England finally concluded peace with the new nation, not with its thirteen parts or States. Our plenipotentiaries, like our ambassadors to foreign Courts, were received as the representatives of a nation, not as the delegates from thirteen sovereign powers. There has been no time, during the century of our existence, when an ambassador from any one State would have been recognized at a foreign Court. Not one of these "sovereign" States—the figments of the Bourbon brain—can find a power in Europe or in the world to make a treaty with it, to salute its flag, if it has any, to send an ambassador to it, to recognize in any way its sovereign existence. We shall celebrate, next 4th of July, the centennial anniversary of the birth of—what? If a nation was not born then, if the 4th of July, 1776, witnessed the birth of the thirteen sovereign powers of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, the two Carolinas, and Georgia, then the centennial is their affair, not ours. According to Senator MCDONALD, we are not a nation now, and all that makes 1776 memorable to us is that our ancestors, who then lived in thirteen different "nations," declared in that year that the thirteen nations were severally independent! If this is so, we have no Union or national existence to commemorate, the Centennial is a fraud, and the $1,500,000 appropriation for which Mr. MCDONALD means to vote is to be spent in getting up a big show in celebration of something which never happened. History shows that we are a "national unity," and that we have been one for a century, during which time the national bond has been constantly growing stronger. In 1861, a dozen States tried to demonstrate that we were "not a national unity." The success of this attempt to carry Senator MCDONALD'S theory into practice was not such as to encourage persistence in the theory. It turned out a very dismal experiment.

PAY OF THE SUPREME JUDGES.

The fact that the people of the Seventh District were yesterday obliged to choose between two candidates for the Supreme Court, both second-class in capability for the work of Supreme Judge, and one of them a voluntary candidate while in contempt of court, is entirely owing to the niggardly salary attached to the most responsible judicial position in the State. Our Supreme Judges are paid but $5,000 a year in lieu of all fees and other compensation, while the Circuit Judges of Cook County receive $7,000 each, and which is not a dollar too much. The work of the Supreme Judge from this district is immeasurably greater than that of our Circuit Judges, and the expenses incident to the position also very much larger. The Circuit Judges of Cook County are not required to travel at all. A Supreme Judge who lives in Chicago must go to Ottawa for one term, to Mount Vernon for another, and to Springfield for a third. He cannot accept railroad passes; he must pay his traveling expenses, his hotel bills, and incidentals. These necessary expenses make such a serious inroad upon his salary that the Supreme Judge does not, as a matter of fact, receive as much compensation, notwithstanding the difference in labor and responsibility, as a rural Circuit Judge.

The dignity of a prosperous State ought of itself to suggest a more reasonable compensation for the highest judicial tribunal it maintains. But if this consideration shall not persuade the Legislature to take some action in the matter, then the considerations of the public welfare ought to coerce an increase in their pay. The idea that a first-class lawyer in the City of Chicago can be induced to take upon himself the immensely hard work of a Supreme Court Judgeship from this district, at a net compensation of not more than $3,000 after paying all necessary expenses, is ridiculous. If there were no serious work attached to the position, the honor might be an attraction to men who had earned a competency in the practice of their profession; but the duties of Supreme Judge—as the Court is organized at present—are so arduous that they require a man in the prime of life, in vigorous health, of active mind, and the highest legal learning, to discharge them properly. The pay is not equal to that of a first-class clerk or bookkeeper in a large mercantile or banking establishment. Good lawyers in Chicago—men equal in every way to the position—earn all the way from $10,000 to $25,000 a year, and it is folly to expect that they will abandon a practice so remunerative for a place on the Supreme Bench for really only $3,000 a year and much harder work.

The difficulty of finding competent men for the Supreme Bench at the present pay will increase instead of decreasing. The best legal talent of the State will naturally gravitate toward the large cities, and as the cities become larger and more important the good lawyers will be able to earn more money in their practice. This question is, therefore, a serious one, and should not be neglected by the next Legislature. If the Court of last resort in this State is to be kept pure and able, a more reasonable compensation must be affixed to the position.

LEGAL HONOR.

In answer to a recent article printed in THE TRIBUNE upon the defeat of justice by the legal profession, as exemplified in the case of TWEED, a lawyer presented his views in our last issue, and in the course of his comments made some very strong points upon the standard of honor in the legal profession. He asks the leading question: "What cause could be brought to a lawyer in which ninety-nine out of a hundred would not take either side for money, regardless of right or wrong, using all kinds of quibbles and technicalities to free his client, or help him defraud his opponent, which, if a man in any other profession or calling should do, he would be called a scoundrel and a villain?" He furthermore traces this low tone of honor among lawyers to the Bench itself, and finds that the Judges, when they reach the Bench, are very often unable to see beyond the quibbles and technicalities which they practiced in the profession. He finds that this want of honor leads directly to the commission of crime, for "what burglar or bank-robber but knows that if he gets the booty he can almost certainly keep from punishment as long as he has any money to buy a lawyer?" There is great force and truth in the facts brought forward by our correspondent, and he might have touched upon still another practice in the profession which has grown into a positive evil, and is constantly used for the defeat of justice with almost unvarying success. In the course of enlarging and improving upon the old methods for clearing criminals, the new trial dodge has become the favorite. As soon as a case is tried and a decision is rendered, whether for an individual as plaintiff or for the State in a criminal case, exceptions are filed and motion is entered for a new trial. Then follows a wrangle, and generally a change of venue and a new trial are secured. If the defendant wins at the second trial in a civil suit, then the plaintiff moves for a new trial, and the case is tossed backward and forward between the respective parties until the lawyers have eaten up the property of both sides. Meanwhile it is an open question what is becoming of law and justice. How is justice to be obtained so long as Sheriffs and their Bailiffs are allowed to tamper with juries, to select them from the sweepings of the streets, and unscrupulous lawyers to pervert and distort the law without rebuke, and Judges entertain quibbles and technicalities, and give criminals the benefit of them? There is nowhere else in the whole body politic such pressing need of reform as in the practice of law and the administration of justice upon the Bench. In the language of our correspondent: "A trial is for the purpose of determining whether the prisoner is guilty or innocent, and not to let him free on account of the 'smartness' of his lawyer." Such a reform, however, to be effective, must emanate from the profession itself, and the courts must set an example in emphasizing it. There are scores of lawyers in this city who ought forever to be disbarred from appearing in a court for practices at once unprofessional and dishonorable, and yet they are suffered to go on from day to day without even a rebuke. Are there not high-minded and honorable men enough at our Bar to demand and effect this reform? If not, then law and justice will soon be a mockery. We are rapidly approaching that result.

THE HOLIDAY SEASON.

Spite of the treacherous weather, ranging from winter cold to spring warmth, spite of hard times and lean pocket-books, of financial uncertainties and burdensome taxes, of MIKE EVANS' tyranny and COLVIN'S mulishness, of persistent pew-rents and extortionate grocers' bills, of bankruptcies, and suspensions, and trials, and tribulations, the people are evicently determined not to let the generous Christmas holiday season pass without observing its most pleasant custom of bestowing gifts. There never was a time when the people paid so little for luxuries as now, or when they drew the purse-strings tighter and practiced economy more systematically, and yet there never was a time when the holiday traffic was more busy or satisfactory. THE TRIBUNE, as the official organ of Santa Claus, is consulted religiously each morning by the people to see what the storekeepers have to sell, and the streets are thronged with crowds pushing in and out of the well-stocked stores. Shopkeepers rub their hands complacently and smile blandly at the buyers, and are filled with a sublime hope that the holiday spurt of business will help out the profit side of the year's work. Men who go home at night without a package of some sort are looked upon suspiciously, and the cars and buses are well loaded, not only with men and women jaded and tired with the day's tramping, but with sleds, hobby-horses, Noah's arks, Christmas trees and evergreens, and oily geese awaiting their holocausts. There may be some curmudgeons who request their wives to ask the shopkeepers to run the bill over into the new year, in order to preserve for a little time the illusion of the anniversary, but the true husband and father will open his pocket-book and close his eyes, religiously believe he did not pay for his own gift, and sedulously avoid ever having the illusion dispelled. Already the indications show that the observance of this favorite anniversary will be as general and generous as ever, notwithstanding the dullness and pressure of the times. The Yule-log will blaze as merrily as ever, the Christmas trees will bear as rich fruit and blaze as brightly, Santa Claus will drive his reindeers as fast and furiously, just as many geese will crackle and sputter in the ovens, and the good wishes and friendly gifts will be as abundant and hearty.

This is all as it should be, for Christmas is the best and brightest day of the whole year. We may even sacrifice Fourth of July with its eagle, and Thanksgiving with its turkey, and New Year's Day with its salads and coffee and calls, but Christmas should be kept in memory of the Carpenter's Son, and the blessings which have followed His mission upon earth. Men and women will feel better for their remembrance of each other. The Christmas gifts will cement new ties of friendship and strengthen the old, brighten every home, and relieve temporarily at least the burdens now pressing upon the people. In this regard the rush of the holiday business shows hopefulness upon their part and a looking forward to better things and more prosperous days. It argues for the popular faith and hope, and to these two should be joined the greatest of the three—charity. The winter is a very severe one upon the poor, who cannot give gifts and rarely receive them. In this season of festival rejoicing and generosity they should not be forgotten. Their humble homes should be gladdened with Christmas cheer, remembering that the Son of Man was born in a stable. To cheer up some poor man or woman, after making your own household happy, will round off Christmas day, and make it forever memorable in personal history.

It appears that our Chicago Board of Trade, shipping merchants, and commission men have good ground for complaining about the discrimination against Chicago that has been made by the railroads running East. These railroads, with the purpose of raising and keeping up rates, came to an agreement not long since not to "cut" at this point; but this agreement is understood not to extend further west than Chicago. As a result of this combination, the rate on a barrel of flour is 90 cents from Chicago to New York, while a barrel of flour is carried from Milwaukee to New York, 90 miles further, for 80 cents. This Milwaukee flour, it must be remembered, is brought directly through Chicago, so that it is not merely carried from Milwaukee to Chicago for nothing, but a premium of 10 cents is offered Milwaukee to send it. No reasonable explanation of this discrimination occurs to us except that the railroads, having shut themselves off for competing with each other for Chicago business, are prepared to cut under to any extent in order to get the business from points west of here. So long as the rate from Milwaukee to New York was the same as from Chicago, there was no disposition to complain, though this itself was an injustice; but when the railroads actually offer a premium for business west of us, it is time to enter a vigorous and effective protest. The railroads might be brought to terms if the Board of Trade would agree to give its business to any one railroad which would refuse to cut under at points west of Chicago, and to none of the others. We know of no other way in which this serious blow at Chicago's trade can be warded off.

The "country is safe," at least till after the holidays, so far as the contingency of President GRANT'S death or resignation involves it. Senator FERRY has been chosen President of the Senate *pro tem.* in a way which the Democrats cannot dispute, to serve in that capacity till Jan. 7 next, when the Senate meets again, or until a fresh appointment shall be made. Should a vacancy occur in the Chief Magistracy of the country pending the vacation, the Democrats would have no excuse for setting up any claims on the part of Speaker KERR, and Senator FERRY would be entitled to the succession as provided by the present law governing the case. The election of another President *pro tem.*, to whom the Presidential succession would fall, may come up Jan. 7 next, under Mr. ENMUNDS' first resolution, or it may be indefinitely postponed, or it may be taken up at any time the Senate may choose to act upon it after Jan. 7. In any case, the choice of Mr. FERRY, last Monday, sets at rest all danger that the Democrats might insist that his former election was irregular, in case there should be a vacancy in the Presidential chair before the expiration of GRANT'S term.

A correspondent in yesterday's TRIBUNE pointed out two alleged grave blunders in the revision of the Illinois statutes executed by the Revision Commission of which Mr. H. B. HURD was chief. The first is that the revised statutes remand us to the common-law doctrine of the rights of women, and so give the husband entire control of the wife's personal property. This does not seem to be sustained by the record. It is true that the revised statutes repeal the so-called "Married Woman's act" of 1861, but they contain the act of 1874 on "husband and wife," which is generally considered to afford ample safeguards to the latter. This act has not yet been judicially interpreted. Until it has been, it is scarcely fair to accuse Mr. HURD of carelessness or culpability. The second alleged blunder seems to be well put. By the old law, a covenant of warranty is conveyed by the use of the expression "grant, bargain, and sell." The revised statute (p. 274, Sec. 8) makes either one of the three words equivalent to a warranty. Now an ordinary quit-claim deed usually contains the word "sell." Hence it seems to follow that nearly all the supposed quit-claim deeds of recent data are really warranty-deeds. This is a serious blunder, involving possible consequences of exceeding gravity. The change is inexcusable. We may add that the authors of the revised statutes blundered into making Chap. 74, Sec. 4, read in such a way that persons living outside the State were forbidden to loan money to our citizens at the same rates (10 per cent) which lenders living within the State could charge. This absurd and unjust discrimination against foreign capital was not contained in the old law. It was one simply to the carelessness of the revisers. The effort to amend the obnoxious clause and restore the old provision, putting home and foreign capital on an equality, and so enabling us to borrow at the lowest possible rates, was carried through a stupid Legislature only by great efforts. Those efforts were rendered necessary by the blunder of the revisers.

Mr. GEORGE H. PENDLETON is engaged on a little campaign of his own. He wants badly to be President. Having been deprived of a nomination, once or twice, by WADE MCLEAN'S wild efforts to get it for him, he has decided to be his own WARWICK for the centennial struggle. He is at present busy capturing the Confederates in the South. Ostensibly bound to Florida for the benefit of his health (?), he is taking numerous Southern cities on the way, and is getting himself nominated for President by press and Confederates in each. "Gentleman GEORGE" smiles kindly from hotel-balconies on delighted crowds. His smile is as sweet as that of the polished smiler, LAMAR, and he carries himself as stately as FERNANDO WOOD. Deportment seems to be the making of him in the "South." In Augusta, Ga., he was openly proposed as the Democratic-Confederate candidate for President. The Bohemian he takes round with him to write him up thus reports from Augusta:

> After tea he was serenaded, the streets in front of the hotel being crowded with spectators. After one or two airs from the band, Judge TWIGGS, with Mr. PENDLETON on his arm, appeared upon the balcony of the second story and introduced him, when he made a brief speech, pleading for a "loftier, purer patriotism, which will crush out all sectional bitterness." His appearance here has been the signal for raising the cry for him for President. He could get the unanimous support of Georgia for the nomination to-morrow, and, no doubt, will receive her solid vote when the Convention assembles. Upon his return from Florida he will pass through Alabama and Mississippi, where he will arouse the people to his standard. He wins every one he meets, and it only requires his presence in the South a few short weeks to get her unanimous vote. In private conversation, Mr. PENDLETON said the *Democratic party was in favor of hard-money*, in spite of all that had been said to the contrary. There were individual members of the party who wanted the currency inflated, but the great mass were opposed to it. He said there would be no great issues in the coming campaign, since sectionalism had about died. [This is a frank confession for one who stumped Ohio for BILL ALLEN and the rag-baby.] He talked as if he wished Congress would adjourn until next winter, greatly fearing that some of the Democratic members would commit rash acts which the enemy would take effectual advantage of in the campaign.

It is about time for somebody to suggest a new method of nominating Presidential candidates. It might be possible to improve upon the present system under which a candidate is apt to be strong in proportion to the general ignorance about him, as shown in the nominations of a POLK and a PIERCE. A large Convention, like all mobs, is very apt to be carried away by sham sentiment or false enthusiasm. The system is by no means aged. At first, there were no formal nominations. Persons were voted for by general consent. This was true of WASHINGTON and of JOHN ADAMS, though in 1797, when the latter was chosen President, some intriguers within his own party, headed by ALEXANDER HAMILTON, nearly succeeded in defeating him by diverting electoral votes to the nominal candidate of the Federalists for Vice-President. Then a system of nomination by State Legislatures came into play. JEFFERSON was nominated for a third term by the Legislatures of three New England States. But this was soon superseded by nominations made by a caucus of Congressmen. The latter system prevailed in turn until 1824. The caucus of that year nominated WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD, of Georgia, one of the forgotten worthies of our past. Meanwhile, nomination by State Legislatures had been resorted to in the case of ADAMS, JACKSON, and CLAY. CRAWFORD was beaten by both the former, and this was the end of the Congressional caucus system of nomination. The first regular National Convention—or rather the first two—met in 1840. Both parties, Whig and Democratic, adopted the custom at the same time.

Office does not always bring out a man's bad qualities. When the holder thereof is a candidate for re-election, he sometimes develops remarkable goodness,—provided somebody is around to see him and put him in the papers. The liveliest item now skipping through the press is about Gov. PECK, of Vermont. He went by the house of a poor woman not long ago and saw her painfully laboring to saw and split some wood. As there were plenty of people around to see him, the Governor promptly did the work for her. He is consequently being billed throughout the United States as a man of "gallantry and impulsive benevolence." If he is re-elected, residents at the Capital's of the several States need not trouble themselves to pay for sawing and splitting their wood. They need only pile the logs on the sidewalk, station an old woman near by, and send word to the Governor. The latter will come down in hot haste and do the job, secretly meditating meanwhile on the significant fact that a certain "rail-splitter" became President.

OAKEY HALL ON THE STAGE.

Time alone will show whether OAKEY HALL, ex-Mayor of New York, has justified his adoption of a new profession by succeeding in it. The New York critics are so much at variance with each other and with themselves that it is impossible to tell from their opinions whether there was any merit in the performance of Saturday night or not. The *World* says there was; the *Tribune* that there was not; the *Times* is apparently undecided; the *Herald* is waiting to find out what other people think before expressing an opinion of its own. The final and decisive test will be the pecuniary success or failure of the play. It will not be enough for Mr. HALL'S personal reputation to succeed tolerably, or to make a hit in one part. He must have a long and brilliant career on the stage in order to compensate him for the professional reputation which he has surrendered. There is not much reason to look for any such compensation. No man ever yet became a great actor in a night, nor is there any record of success in art—but in artistic success—beginning in old age. Mr. HALL undoubtedly entered into this business solely with a view to making money. He has become a partner in the Park Theatre, and he sees no easier way to line his pockets than by exhibiting himself at so much per night. He probably does not dream of great distinction as an actor. It is all one to him whether the papers pity him or not, so long as he draws good paying audiences to see him. There is certainly no indication of loftier motives in anything Mr. HALL has done since his brief theatrical career began. We confess to thinking that his appearance in a play obviously founded on incidents in his own life is coarse and indelicate. A man of fine perceptions would be incapable of such an exhibition, especially when the incidents personal to himself happened to be of so painful a nature as those which Mr. HALL has turned into a source of profit. It is as if a man wrongfully sentenced to the Penitentiary, or rescued from hanging after the fatal noose had been placed around his neck, should construct a panorama with his own life as the subject. The case of Mr. HALL is still worse; for, although he was proved innocent of defrauding the City Government, he still rests under strong suspicions of carelessness and incompetency in office. The wrong which was done him in bringing him to trial was not nearly so great as that which he inflicted upon the people of New York during his term of office. His appearance, therefore, on the stage is not only in bad taste, but a positive injury to sound political morals. The press of New York has overlooked or ignored all these minor considerations connected with the beginning of Mr. HALL'S theatrical life; it is time they should be pressed upon public notice.

The colored voters of Georgia are learning with a rapidity that startles the Whites-Liners. It is that State the colored voters, who comprise substantially all there is there of the Republican party, are in a hopeless minority, and they have learned the folly of nominating local tickets only to be defeated. Instead, they learn the Democrats to hold the Nominating Conventions, and the Democratic candidates defeated in Convention to bolt. Then the colored voters hold the balance of power, and already are secured correspondent recognition as an important element in local politics. They thus developed their strength in the recent municipal elections at Augusta and at Rome; and, at Columbus, where separate ballot-boxes were provided for the colored voters, the whites were astonished to find the municipal ticket, elected at the white ballot-boxes, overwhelmingly defeated by the vote at the colored ballot-boxes,—both candidates being Democratic. The Augusta *Chronicle and Sentinel*, the leading Democratic organ of the State, in view of these results, notes the announcement, editorially, that "the colored voter is rapidly becoming an element in Georgia politics," and adds:

> These things convince us that the colored man in Georgia is learning the secret of his strength, and that he will display in all future elections the knowledge which he has acquired. If, instead of running candidates of their own, they refrain from making nominations and permit the Democrats to run two candidates, they can elect, wherever two strong men are in the field, any one whom they choose to support, from Governor of the State down to County Constable. The example which has been set in minor elections will be followed to advantage in important contests, and much mischief may be the result. . . . We do not believe that the Republicans will run a candidate for Governor, or candidates for the General Assembly next year, but that they will take advantage of divisions in the Democratic ranks, and support Independents. If they do, the regular party nominees in 1876 will have to work hard to avoid defeat.

The *Chronicle and Sentinel*, in evident dismay, can advise nothing to avert the threatened "mischief,"—which is but the elimination of the white-line from Georgia politics. It will be followed by a full recognition of the political rights of the blacks, who, having been discovered to be an "important element in politics," will inevitably be discovered to be possessed of rights, and whose votes will very shortly be bid for as are the votes of any other "important element."

The New York *Herald*, having packed away the original third-term spook along with the wild animals that broke loose in Central Park, and the rest of its theatrical properties and stage-light fixings, is now struck all of a heap at the horrid apparition, conjured up by its intellectual department, of GRANT as the modern Cromwell and Lord

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Holland is the only royal author extant whose work is worth reading. Her articles get into the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, and do so, not because she has a crown, for she writes under an assumed name, but because she has brains. Nothing in the history of the GUELPHS would justify such an assertion of them.

A private letter from Virginia City confirms the reports of hard times and slow progress in rebuilding that once-thriving city which have from time to time reached us. All persons thinking of emigrating thither in hopes of finding employment are warned to stay away. The city will for several reasons be rebuilt very slowly. The winter season has set in with every indication of being long and severe; many miners are out of employment; money is tight; and the capitalists, who own a large part of the city, do not propose to begin the work of restoration until spring. Virginia City has, of course, a bright future to look forward to, but its present condition is anything but tempting.

POOR TENNYSON. He will have to grind out some more machine-made verses when the Prince of Wales comes back from India. VICTORIA has said so, and poet-laureates must obey royal behests. Pegasus, driven to order, is apt to become a donkey. Remembering that manufactured ode to ALEXANDRA, with its "nails" and false history and broken-backed rhythm, and the added fact that "hails" rhymes with "Wales," we shudder at the thought of what is coming. TENNYSON will deal out "hails" to the Prince with the same liberal largeness that TUPPER measured out "welcomes" to the Princess.

We have two "shortest days" this year, the winter solstice occurring almost precisely at midnight (11 h. 26 m.), so that to-day and yesterday are of the same length on this meridian. We shall have fifty-three Sundays in next year.

PERSONAL.

The condition of ex-Senator Richardson at Quincy does not improve, and it is feared that he will not recover.

Maurice Grau has sailed for Europe to attend to his business affairs with Signor Rosi and Mlle. Zulma Bouffar, and to make arrangements for new professional enterprises next year.

One of the fashion authorities has decreed that short men shall not wear Ulster-coats, and that tall men who wear Ulsters shall not wear high hats. Tall women in Derby hats look like dressed-up ten-pins, and little women in flare-up bonnets look overwhelmingly top-heavy.

The *Herald* correspondent telegraphs from Paris: "I have just learned that all the American officers in the service of the Khedive, except Col. Stone, are ordered to join the Egyptian expedition against Abyssinia. Gen. Loring will be the second in command. I am happy to report that the Colonel who was reported to have fallen in the late massacre is safe."

A number of newspapers in the East are maintaining, with some show of reason, that since Mr. Longfellow has declined to serve as Centennial poet, Mr. Whittier should be invited to fill the vacancy. Mr. Whittier is known to be perhaps the most popular of all American poets, present or past, in the sense that he is the most cherished and read by the firesides of the people.

Senator Johnston, who has just been re-elected by the Legislature of Virginia to another term in the United States Senate, is a nephew of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston. He is about 55 years of age, and before going to the Senate never held any public office except that of Judge, to which he was appointed by a military commander. Senator Johnston has fine legal abilities and refined manners.

The richest man in Boston is said to be Weld, of Weld & Co., East India merchants, worth $18,000,000. Joshua Sears, who died several years ago, left to a young son property estimated now to be worth $30,000,000. There are ordinary millionaries without number in Boston. They all live unpretentiously in fine mansions, and read the *Daily Advertiser* through from end to end every morning.

The friends of the Prince of Wales, King Lamar, object to his elevation to royal dignity by THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE. They try to show that he is only Prime Minister to King Can ous. But it has been observed that when the title is used in his presence he smiles and touches his forehead significantly, as if feeling the pressure of his crown. He knows that the caucus is Lamar, and Lamar the caucus.

Mr. Beverdy Johnson, in another letter home to a Baltimore paper,—by the way, he is rather prodigal in newspaper correspondence,—takes occasion to thump Mr. Caleb Cushing over the shoulders of Lord Chief-Justice Cockburn. The latter, Mr. Johnson says, is noted in England for his dignity and impartiality; and the pamphlet of Mr. Cushing directed against him was received there in contemptuous silence.

Blondin, the tight-rope walker, has been heard from again. On the 19th of October last, while on the Indian steamship Poonah, and at sea, he walked on a 7-inch hawser from the main to the mizzen-topmast and back. It is said that with the rolling of the ship and the vibration of the powerful engines the rope was drawn into such sinuous waves that it closely resembled a snake. Blondin was frequently obliged to sit down as the ship rode a heavy swell.

The Rev. H. N. Wright is a Methodist, and the Rev. Mr. Babcock a Baptist minister of Bellmore, L. I. They have had words, and are not considered friends. Meeting at the station recently, Mr. Babcock—accidentally as he alleges—brought his right hand in contact with the lappel of Mr. Wright's coat. The awful and unforeseen consequence was that Wright's hat was thrown from the platform, and he came near falling himself. He has now sued for assault and battery. It is in this manner that Christian brethren sometimes dwell together in unity.

Damaging revelations in regard to the confidential relations existing between Minister Schenck and Norman Wiard continue to be made. It is said that Wiard, in 1871, was accustomed to show a power of attorney given to him by Gen. Schenck by which he was created agent to prosecute all claims against the British Government in which Schenck had an interest. The consideration for these services was to be a two-rata share of all moneys recovered. The power of attorney has been published in full in *Watson's Art Journal*, where, it must be considered, the public is not accustomed to look for information on such subjects.

D. P. Dyer, United States District-Attorney at St. Louis, has had a curious newspaper controversy with Mr. Jeff Chandler, a prominent legal authority of that city. The victory decidedly rests with the former. Chandler published a card, in which he disdainfully referred to Dyer as one whose services to the Government had been obscured by the reputation of the eminent counsel who had been engaged to assist him. Dyer, in return, showed that Chandler's scorn was caused by the refusal of the Government to employ him as one of those assisting counsel. Chandler has subsided.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Pacific House—J. A. Pierson, Detroit; H. Osterberg, Rock Island; Gen. E. L. Brevoley, Washington; the Hon. Samuel Shocck, Marquette; the Hon. Philetus Sawyer, Kenosha; John Allen, Pekin; Col. Frank Noyes, Clinton, Ia.; Gen. G. B. Wright and W. H. Hibard, Indianapolis; the Hon. L. C. Stanley, Chippewa Falls; the Hon. J. M. Osborn, Toledo; the Hon. O. H. Jewell, Indian Agent.... *Palmer House*—Robert Williams, Norwich, Conn.; the Hon. C. E. Crane, Green Bay; J. T. Howard, New York; M. D. Edwards, St. Paul; O. M. Head, Pittsburg; W. J. Wilson, St. Louis; F. S. Luther, Racine; H. H. Cole, New York; E. R. Mason, Des Moines.... *Tremont House*—Emil Haas, New York; Chauncey Butler and wife, Litchfield, Minn.; T. S. Springer, Detroit; W. R. Lacey, Niles, Mich.; C. C. Lay, La Grange, Ill.; James H. Wilkins, Princeton; S. M. Reynolds, Pittsburg; H. W. Mann, Kansas City; John T. Nobis, New York; the Hon. A. E. Stevenson, and John E. Bagby.... *Sherman House*—Col. W. R. Moulton, Clinton, Ia.; F. W. Orvis, Dixon; the Hon. A. Hall, Dedham, Mass.; the Hon. W. F. Hoss, Chicago; the Hon. D. S. Hill and D. L. Kinsey, Rockford; Reginald Norbert Knights, N. Y.; Col. Bob Mott, Monty Estes, Milwaukee.

WHISKY.

Illicit Distilling on a Small Scale —A Barn which Needs Examination.

Why Mr. G. G. Russell Went to Washington---A Charge Explained.

Proceedings at Milwaukee, Fort Wayne, and Springfield.

The Case of Mr. McKee, of the St. Louis "Globe-Democrat."

Probability of a Change in the Proprietorship of That Paper.

AN ILLICIT STILL.

SOMETHING FOR THE REVENUE OFFICERS TO HUNT UP.

A few days ago the following letter was received by the editor of THE TRIBUNE, and, though it appeared at least doubtful upon its face, having no signature further than one which generally means directly contrary to what is expressed in it, it was thought best to see if the assertions made were borne out by an examination:

CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—MR. EDITOR: This is to let you know that a man name Jacob Schmidt is making some whisky in his barn, which is situated in his back-yard, and he lives on —— street, in the second house east of the corner of —— street, on the south side of the street. Go around and see for yourself.

FRIEND OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Having used a street-car to the end of the route laid out by the builders thereof, and having walked a considerable distance, the investigator found the corner of the streets referred to—a rather squalid neighborhood, or at least one in which cheap tenement-houses and bad smells seemed to predominate. The house in question was found to be one of those common, high-basement, one-story, six-room affairs which are so often seen in the northwestern part of the city. In the rear of this house was a barn of rather larger capacity than would have been expected from the size of the house,—one which gave rise to the inference that the proprietors kept a good deal of stock—horses or cows. The barn, of course, abutted on an alley, and was, perhaps, 23 by 40 feet on the ground. Assuming, for a moment,

THE CHARACTER OF A PEDDLER,

the reporter ascended a flight of steps, and knocked at the door. A woman, who might have been 40 years of age, and who was certainly extremely slovenly as to her personal appearance, answered the call, and demanded what was wanted. The reporter said he wished to see the gentleman of the house, and the woman replied that he was at the barn, taking care of his horses. The peddler then offered to go out and look after him, but the woman

VERY STRENUOUSLY OBJECTED,

and said that the proprietor would be in in the course of a few moments. Promising to call again, the peddler, who had by this time become a reporter, went around into the alley at the rear of the barn. It was a particularly close affair, having, beside the usual close boarding, a system of battens covering each particular crack with great nicety. There was a door leading out into the alley, which the reporter was not able to open, although he tried quietly but persistently. What was unusual in the appearance of the barn was the fact that a chimney projected out on the roof.

Slightly baffled at his first attempt, the reporter made inquiries of several persons in the neighborhood as to what Mr. Schmidt did for a living. The universal opinion appeared to be that the gentleman in question did nothing but stay at home, seeming to have considerable money, and living on the income thereof. A gentleman who lives next door said that Schmidt seemed to be

A SORT OF AN INVENTOR,

and that he had in his barn various apparatus for producing chemicals, and the like. He, himself, had never been in that structure but once. It appeared, also, that Schmidt's only assistants were a son and a young man who lived with them. Despairing of getting any information from Mr. Schmidt, the woman, or the son, the reporter, as the word is, "laid" for the boy, and last evening, after a series of inquiries and unpleasant adventures, found him at a neighboring beer saloon. Influenced by several potations of beer, the young man became

GRADUALLY COMMUNICATIVE,

and, when he believed that he had had enough beer, started for home, the reporter volunteering to walk with him a little way. When about a block from the saloon, the reporter suddenly arrested his comrade, saying to him at the same time that he was a revenue officer, and that he was obliged to take him into custody for participation in illegal distilling. At first, the young man stoutly denied anything of the kind, and said that his employer was engaged in making cordials and blackberry brandy. After being a little terrified by the sight of a night reporter's badge, which seemed to produce a mingled feeling of awe and respect in his soul, he agreed to tell what he knew, in consideration of being let off then and there. The following is the substance of

HIS TALE:

The old man does make some spirits, that's true. He makes them in a still with a long curved copper tube, and the tube goes through water. He runs the place mostly in the daytime, and he pretends to the neighbors that he is a chemist, and that he is trying to invent some new dye. And he tells some of the neighbors that he used to be a brush-maker, and that he is trying some experiments with bristles, and you can see at the door of the barn some bunches of bristles which he has been boiling or says he has been trying to make better.

Reporter—How much spirits does he make?

Boy—Sometimes he makes two barrels in one day; sometimes one barrel; and sometimes not so much. Some days not any.

R.—Does he grind his own corn?

B.—Yes; he's got a mill to grind the corn, and I have to turn the wheel—me and the other boy; we turn together.

R.—Where does he get his corn?

B.—He brings it at night in bags from somewhere down-town.

R.—How much corn do you have to grind at once?

B.—Most days we have to grind ten bags.

R.—Tell me what he has

OUT IN THE BARN.

B.—He's got the mill that we turn, then he's got four tubs bigger'n a wash-tub,—little cisterns,—and when he gets the meal ground he puts it in one of the tubs, and we have to stir it around with water. Then he lets it stay for three or four days, and he puts some other stuff in with it, hops, I guess it is,—and then when it has been in there three or four days, he boils it in a kettle, and the white spirits, like water, comes out of the tube.

R.—What kind of a furnace has got?

B.—Oh, he uses coal in his furnace.

R.—What does he do with

HIS SPIRITS?

B.—I don't know. He takes it away at nights when he goes after corn, and then he brings back some more corn and some barrels.

R.—Do the barrels have any stamps on the heads?

B.—Pictures, you mean. Yes, they have pictures on the head. They are tacked on with tacks.

R.—How much did you say he made?

B.—Most every day he makes two barrels full.

R.—Could you take me into the barn?

B.—No, sir, I couldn't. There is a great bar on the back door into the alley way, and the front door has got a great big lock on it, and he keeps the key himself.

R.—Does the old man—as you call him—talk English?

B.—He can, if he wants to, but he won't. If you speak to him in English he will tell you "nichts verstet."

R.—How much does he pay you for working?

B.—He pays my father some money, and he gives me $5 every week. I don't know how much he pays my father.

This was the substance of what he had to say, and, faithful to his agreement to let the boy go, the reporter gave him to understand that he was at liberty. He went off with more speed than grace.

These facts are submitted to the Revenue officers with the hope that they will find out Mr. Schmidt's place and close up his business. It must be

A PROFITABLE OCCUPATION,

even by the small showing given by the boy. One barrel a day even would probably represent fifty tax-payers' gallons, which, at 90 cents a gallon tax, would work a deficit in the revenue of some $45, to say nothing of the profit on spirits if they were manufactured legally. The boy's estimate of ten bags of corn a day would probably mean something like two bushels to the bag, and if ten bags a day, or twenty bushels, were ground and made into mash, even with the imperfect apparatus which the man would be obliged to use, he would probably produce fourteen quarts to the bushel, or about seventy gallons for each day's run.

And the thought comes—are there other illicit stills in Chicago? There may be many, others whose proprietors are working as noiselessly as the subject of this article, and who are perhaps laying up goodly stores of greenbacks wrongfully withheld from the Government. At any rate there seems to be a loud call for an investigation on the part of the revenue officials.

CHICAGO.

THE CHICAGO "UNION"

of yesterday gave currency to a report that Gen. Webster, Collector of Internal Revenue, had been at one time a partner in the firm of Furlong & Russell, proprietors of a distillery which had been seized for defrauding the revenue, both partners in which had been arrested and held to bail. The insinuation is made very guardedly, but the inference intended to be drawn is that the Collector had had an interest in the distillery business carried on by this firm. The truth of the matter is that several years ago Messrs. Furlong & Russell received a contract for street-cleaning in this city; that they borrowed several thousand dollars from Gen. Webster as a sort of capital to carry on the business with, and that, in drawing up the papers to secure this sum, Gen. Webster was made, wittingly or unwittingly, a partner in the firm; that, after the business had been carried on for some time, Gen. Webster withdrew, having suffered the loss of several thousand dollars, and that is all the connection that he ever had with the firm of Furlong & Russell. That was long before they were engaged in the whisky business. The assertion that the Collector's chief deputy, Mr. Root, ever had anything to do with the firm in question is purely gratuitous.

MR. G. G. RUSSELL,

of the firm of Furlong & Russell, was indicted by a recent Grand Jury of the United States District Court, and, in consequence of the revelations made by a comparison of stamps, stubs, and books, was assessed a considerable sum by the Treasury Department, which was made a lien on his property. He went to Washington Saturday, together with a lawyer, to see if this assessment could not be somewhat reduced, believing, or affecting to believe, that it was entirely too high, and more than by the most rigorous system of accounts, could be brought against his distillery. This fact is the key to some very wild assertions made yesterday by a contemporary.

A JURY CALLED.

Judge Blodgett yesterday ordered the Commissioners to call a panel of thirty jurymen for the District Court, and to make them appreciate the necessity of being present by Jan. 11. Accordingly Messrs. Hoyne, Proudfoot, and Lampheré will proceed to draw the jury on the plan heretofore described in these columns.

ST. LOUIS.

THE CASE OF MCKEE—PROBABLE CHANGE IN THE PROPRIETORSHIP OF THE "GLOBE-DEMOCRAT."

By Special Dispatch to The Cincinnati Commercial.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 20.—Something has been said by friends of the lately convicted members of the Whisky Ring, and friends of those under indictment and awaiting trial, to the effect that, owing to the tremendous pressure of public sentiment, no jury could fail to convict. There was never a greater mistake or a more unfounded assertion. Many of those who have been identified with these frauds on the revenue have been citizens of St. Louis for from ten to thirty years, and have sustained intimate relations with all classes. Their acquaintance has been large and their circle of friends in corresponding proportion. Consequently the feeling of the public toward the accused in these cases has always been one of toleration, charity, and sympathy; and the latter impulse has actuated more than one citizen of probity and integrity, while morally convinced of the guilt of accused persons, to hope that the law for punishment, though not for prevention, might be rendered inoperative. This is especially the case in regard to Mr. William McKee, senior proprietor of the *Globe-Democrat* newspaper, and Constantine Maguire, ex-Collector of United States Internal Revenue.

For St. Louis people there is perhaps more interest attached to McKee's case than to that of any other member or supposed member of the Ring. First, because Mr. McKee has been so long a resident of the city; second, because of his prominent identification with the city's public history and progress; and, third, because of his reputation for honor and discretion, and because of the precarious situation in which much of his wealth is placed by reason of his indictment. Mr. McKee has lived in St. Louis for about thirty-five years, and has been constantly connected with the city press for that period. He has amassed a reputable competency, his fortune at the present time being estimated at about $300,000. A large portion of this, however, is represented by his stock in the *Globe-Democrat*, which is valued at about $400,000, and of which he owns more than one-half. The value of this property, it is not unreasonable to suppose, has been somewhat diminished by the alleged connection of Mr. McKee with the Whisky Ring, and the paper is liable to still further injury by a verdict of the jury, should it prove adverse to the defendant. It can scarcely be claimed that Mr. McKee is entitled to more sympathy than any one else who has been placed in a similar position by the Grand Jury. Possessed of ample wealth, enjoying a proud social and political distinction, one of the autocrats of his party, at the head of a great newspaper, possessed of the confidence of the community and the esteem of his personal acquaintances, placed by every circumstance which surrounded him so far from anything which could be construed into a necessity for such a course—it would seem indeed a strange feature in the philosophy of crime should this man prove to have risked fortune, fair name, and personal liberty for the chance of so small a gain as the limited portion of the plunder allotted to him.

A bit of fact not uninteresting to the political and journalistic world has been developed. It was noticed that some time after the indictment of William McKee, of the *Globe-Democrat*, Gen. Boynton, of the Cincinnati *Gazette*, made his appearance in St. Louis, ostensibly to testify in the Avery case. He was put on the stand by the defendant's counsel, but related nothing of any consequence. It now transpires that the General had a much more material object in view than that of stating under oath that he knew of no evil of William O. Avery, and did not know that Con Megrue had a bad name.

Naturally enough, on the indictment of McKee, speculation became rife as to what effect his conviction (were it secured) might have on the half million dollars worth of newspaper property on the corner of Fourth and Pine streets, of which McKee is owner of about two-thirds.

The first thought that naturally presented itself to the deliberate observer was that, in case of McKee's conviction, his connection with the *Globe-Democrat* must cease, or else that paper would no longer be acknowledged or looked up to as the organ of the Republican party. The *Globe*, prior to the consolidation, and, indeed, during the whole of its existence, had lived in iff odor on account of certain little tricks (to give them no more harsh name) of which it had stood openly and palpably guilty; and when there came the fresh scandal of an indictment for public robbery on the head of the chief proprietor of the consolidated concern, which was, and is still, in the hands of the original *Globe* crowd, many of the Republican leaders outside the Ring began to murmur loudly. Their party, they declared, could stand it no longer. Such men as McKee and his co-conspirators had disgraced it before; now they bid fair to ruin it. The situation was strange, and presented one of the most remarkable anomalies in the history of American politics.

The party of progress and virtue and intelligence was in the hands of robbers and felons! Naturally enough, one of the first to discover the vital necessity of cleaning out the *Globe* folks, or of the party repudiating the hyphenated organ, was Mr. George W. Fishback, late proprietor of the *Democrat*, whose paper the *Globe* had swallowed, and was therefore idle. To these facts are attributable the visit of Gen. Boynton. It is understood he proposes to join Fishback, should the latter succeed in his designs upon the *Globe-Democrat*. Fishback, though in independent circumstances, is not able to "carry" the paper alone. He has, however, several solid backers, one of whom is Gerard B. Allen, one of the wealthiest of our citizens. Gen. Boynton, it is understood, will withdraw from the *Gazette*, become a limited stockholder in and assume the managing editorship of the *Globe-Democrat*, when the new purchasers take possession. There is no probability, however that a half million dollars will be paid for the *Globe-Democrat*. The paper is not worth so great an amount of money, and if the present owners should refuse to sell for a reasonable price the new combine will probably purchase the *Times*, and then secure a franchise in the Associated Press, and change the politics of the sheet to suit their own. This would be much better than paying half a million for the *Globe-Democrat*. The new paper would start under favorable auspices, having the backing of the Administration to sustain it, and reaping vast benefit from the ill-repute of its older rival. The recent story, to the effect that Mr. Fishback had visited the Secretary of the Treasury and tried to force a confiscation and sale of Mr. McKee's property, with the view of becoming the purchaser, it is scarcely necessary to state was a gross sensational yarn originating in the brain of a notoriously sensational reporter at Washington. Whatever Mr. Fishback does, or intends to do, will be done openly and above-board.

It is supposed by some that Mr. Fishback, in his new newspaper enterprise, will have the moral support of Mr. Bristow, as it has been claimed that through the instrumentality of the former the Secretary was enabled to reach the chief conspirators of the Whisky Ring. It is doubtful, however, whether the same cordial relations which subsisted previous to the sale of the *Democrat*, between the Secretary and Mr. Fishback, remain unchanged. There is a very ugly story—and a very plausible one—to the effect that on a recent visit of Mr. F. to Washington Mr. Bristow intimated to him that the Treasury Department did not consider itself under any obligations whatever to him (Fishback); that whatever good might have been the result of Fishback's first revelations to the Department, the credit which Fishback might have claimed had been neutralized by his compromise with the conspirators in taking advantage of his knowledge to force a sale of his paper at an exorbitant figure.

SPRINGFIELD.

YESTERDAY.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 21.—Papers were filed in the United States District Court to-day in civil suits on export and other bonds against the Pekin Alcohol Works. The aggregate amount sued for in the five suits is $123,854. Suit was also instituted on the official bonds of the Government Gauger and the Storekeeper of the Lebanon distillery, heretofore arrested and bound over on criminal charges, as noted in these dispatches. The papers in the Pekin suits will be served at once; also the criminal warrants against distillers there. A Deputy United States Marshal left this evening with warrants for a subordinate official of one of the Pekin distilleries, and for several others there identified with the traffic as distillers or rectifiers.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WASHINGTON SURMISE.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 21.—There is some mystery attending the movements of J. J. Russell, the Chicago distiller. He arrived here from Chicago on the same train with Supervisor Mathews. It is surmised that Russell may propose to turn State's evidence. It is known that some of the Chicago distillers have intimated a willingness to turn State's evidence, and very lively times are expected shortly.

MILWAUKEE.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 21.—In the case of Weimar and Taft, Judge Dyer to-day sentenced Weimar to the County Jail for eight months, and Taft to the Penitentiary for five months, and $2,000 fine each.

FORT WAYNE, IND.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

FORT WAYNE, Ind., Dec. 21.—John M. Reidmiller, an extensive brewer of this city, was arrested this evening for violation of the Revenue laws. He is charged with using stamps more than once. Reidmiller appeared before the United States Commissioner and gave bonds for his appearance.

ST. LOUIS.

Inauguration of the Merchants' Exchange Building.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 21.—This was a great day among the merchants of St. Louis, formal possession being taken of the new Exchange Building. The inauguration ceremonies were grand and imposing. At 11 a. m. a vast crowd assembled in the old building and listened to a farewell address from Mr. Waylan Crow, the oldest living member of the Exchange. After the farewell address of Mr. Crow the members of the Exchange formed into line and marched up Main street to Washington avenue and Fourth street, down Fourth street to Chestnut street, and along Chestnut street to the Exchange great satisfaction of the small party assembled. Aid. Cullerton and various other gentlemen from the wards were present and congratulated Judge Dickey upon his victory. City Marshal Goodell was in his office, where was held a pleasant concourse of politicians and police officials. Nothing like speechmaking was attempted, and when, at half-past 2, the votes from the Fourteenth Ward, the last in the city, came in, and the even majority had been announced as 5,000 in Chicago, the party dispersed without any particular cheers or enthusiasm.

A short conversation with Judge Dickey revealed the fact that he was of course gratified at his election, and that he hoped to justify his supporters by his actions.

REPUBLICAN HEADQUARTERS

presented a deserted aspect during the evening. There was a general lack of enthusiasm among the few politicians who were gathered there to ascertain the exact result of the election. The scenes that transpired were vastly different from those which occurred at the time of the last general election. Then there was a noisy, excited crowd filling the rooms where the returns were announced and effectually obstructing the streets in the neighborhood. The reading of votes was received with tumultuous acclamations, and on the strength of particularly favorable returns enthusiastic speeches were made, eliciting thunders of applause. There was a universal crowding and struggling and choking with tobacco-smoke, that was far from comfortable. Last evening, however, the scene was quite the reverse. It was true that arrangements for receiving the returns were complete, as usual. A telegraphic operator was stationed in one corner, to catch the first whisper of the wires. But there was a decided lack of crowd. A few of the old-time politicians dropped in at different times during the evening in a casual way, but none of them lingered more than a few moments. Gen. O. L. Mann, Ingwell Oleson, M. M. Miller, Ald. Quirk, Park Commissioner Stanford, Ald. Cleveland, and ex-Ald. Gill were among this number. Mr. Hurd was on hand, and remained about an hour. There was no especial expression of disappointment at the result of the election by any of the party. They were evidently prepared beforehand to endure defeat, and they took it without resentment, and even wreathed their faces with occasional smiles. It was conceded by all that the election could not be regarded in any light as a test of the strength of the two political parties. The assemblage dispersed at a comparatively early hour.

THE FIFTEENTH WARD.

A large number of the members of the old Fifteenth Ward Republican Club met at No. 204 Bucker street last night to reorganize. Col. A. W. Rafen was elected temporary Chairman, and James Malone Secretary. The old constitution and by-laws were adopted with some slight alterations. Mr. John Buehler was elected Chairman and James Malone Secretary of the Club, which appears to contain good material for campaign purposes.

RELIGIOUS.

CATHOLIC BISHOP CONSECRATED.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 21.—The Rev. John Ireland, lately commissioned Associate Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of St. Paul, was consecrated to-day with all the usual ceremonies. Bishop Grace, who ordained Father Ireland fourteen years ago to-day, was consecrator, assisted by Bishops Heiss, of La Crosse, and Seiderbush, of St. Cloud, and a number of priests. Among the ecclesiastics witnessing the ceremony was Archbishop Henni, of Milwaukee. Bishop Ireland has been popular as a priest here for fourteen years. He is also highly esteemed outside his church on account of his zealous loyalty during the War, unflagging labors for the poor, and great success in temperance reforms among his people.

A METHODIST APPELLATE BODY.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 21.—The triers of appeals from the Rock River, the Illinois, and the Southern Illinois Conferences, are in session here, and will be for several days, hearing appeal cases. Bishop Bowman, of St. Louis, is presiding. The brethren are as close as oysters to the representatives of the secular press. It is known that they are considering the Workman case, from Woodford County, and a couple of unimportant cases from Indiana.

NOODY ON MAN.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 21.—The Tabernacle was a very large attendance at the Moody and Sankey meeting to-night, the large majority being ladies. Mr. Moody said he would take "Naaman" for his text, and in the course of his remarks referred to Naaman, the leper, who was cured by a miracle. He then compared leprosy with the leprosy of sin, and said it was much easier to cleanse man of sins than of his disease.

After the regular services, many of both sexes entered the inquiry-rooms to be especially prayed for.

THE ELECTION.

Judge Dickey Chosen to Succeed Judge McAllister.

He Receives an Even Majority of 5,000 in This City.

A Wet Day and a Light Vote.

The election yesterday passed off with exemplary quiet, and was without a semblance of a row of any kind. The voting was mostly done early in the day, and by 5 o'clock very few people could be seen near any of the polls. The very small number of votes cast indicated clearly that but little interest was taken in the election, especially by the Republicans. It is almost without precedent that one candidate should carry every precinct and ward in the City of Chicago, and that, too, by generally large majorities. That the vote was to be small was expected by everybody, but nobody figured on less than one-fifth of the total vote cast at the late county election. The table below gives all further necessary information concerning the vote in the different wards and the majorities, as far as heard from, the result being clearly the election of Judge Dickey by a very good majority in the city, which will probably be slightly increased when the returns are all in:

JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT, SEVENTH DISTRICT.

Ward.	Precinct.	Hurd, Rep.	Dickey, Ind.
I		73	171
II		93	150
III		121	419
IV		94	432
V	1	49	180
	2	7	222
Total		56	411
VI	1	139	291
	2	15	191
	3	18	97
Total		172	582
VII	1	75	204
	2	14	209
Total		89	503
VIII	1	89	293
	2	47	220
Total		137	513
IX	1	97	416
	2	51	231
Total		148	647
X		209	332
XI		97	237
XII		201	240
XIII		122	226
XIV		187	228
XV	1	106	334
	2	87	141
Total		193	475
XVI		109	375
XVII		75	380
XVIII		103	443
XIX		35	249
XX	1	83	382
	2	51	214
Total		134	596

Total in Chicago—Hurd, 2,629; Dickey, 7,629.
Dickey's majority, 5,000.
Total vote in Chicago, 10,258.

COOK COUNTY.

	Hurd.	Dickey.
Evanston	208	133
Lake	41	201
Lemont	16	76
Total	325	410

WILL COUNTY.

	Maj.
Joliet	445
Wilmington	81
Total	536

KANKAKEE COUNTY.

Kankakee	136	221
Grand total	3,009	8,786
Dickey's majority		5,896

A special despatch from Kankakee says that that county is conceded to Hurd by about 200 majority.

There were scattering votes, generally for Dent, in the following wards of Chicago: Fifth, 4; Eleventh, 3; Twelfth, 1.

THE SCENE AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS

last evening was quite animated. Judge Dickey was present, and occupied himself with a large sheet of paper in figuring up majorities, and at the same time earnestly contesting with the reporters that his figures were correct as in opposition to theirs. During the evening City-Attorney Jamieson and Col. Wilson were present, and, somewhat conspicuous, Building-Inspector Bailey officiated as master of ceremonies and read the returns as they came in, to the great satisfaction of the small party assembled. Ald. Cullerton and various other gentlemen from the wards were present and congratulated Judge Dickey upon his victory. City Marshal Goodell was in his office, where was held a pleasant concourse of politicians and police officials. Nothing like speechmaking was attempted, and when, at half-past 2, the votes from the Fourteenth Ward, the last in the city, came in, and the even majority had been announced as 5,000 in Chicago, the party dispersed without any particular cheers or enthusiasm.

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

The Country Demand for Loans Continues Brisk.

The City Demand Slight---More Currency to the Country.

The Produce Markets More Animated---Provisions Steady.

An Important Advance in Wheat---Corn Dull.

FINANCIAL.

The general condition of local finances was quiet, though strong. The combined demand from the country and the packers for loans makes the market firm and rates strong, though not hard. The combination to hold back wheat and stock from market remains unbroken, and its financial effects here are seen in the large volume of loans applied for on country account. Loans made thirty and sixty days ago are renewed when they fall due, instead of being paid, and the greatest share of the daily discount operations of the banks is with their country correspondents. The packers are making their paper in gradually increasing quantities. It is regarded as choice, and taken by the banks at favorable rates. The mercantile demand is light; small accommodations are sought for to make annual settlements, and to make good the failure of collections, which have been somewhat impeded by the weather and the condition of the country roads. Manufacturers and railroad paper is also in the market, the latter for the purchase of supplies, but it is not in large amounts.

Rates of discount are 8@10 per cent at the banks to regular customers. There is very little surplus at the command of independent borrowers, but who have good security can get inside rates for short loans.

On the street there is only a moderate volume of business. Rates are 6@18 per cent.

New York exchange was weak, and sold between banks at 75c@$1.00 discount between banks.

The orders from the country for currency was larger.

The bank clearings were $3,700,000.

CHANGE IN THE LAW OF BANK LIABILITY FOR CHECKS DEPOSITED.

The liability of a bank for a check on itself drawn by one customer and accepted in the deposit of another is now contradictorily regarded by the courts. Until recently, the law stood unquestioned that a bank accepting such a check certified to its genuineness so far as to estop itself from subsequently raising any question with regard to its validity. The Supreme Court of California has recently given a decision antagonistic to this principle, as had been done previously by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania. These decisions are believed to indicate the drift of judicial opinion. This foreshadows the general acceptance of the doctrine that a bank receiving a deposit of a check drawn upon itself receives it not as a cash deposit, but for the purposes of collection, and that the bank, by receiving it and entering it in the passbook of the depositor, does not deprive itself of the right subsequently to question the check and return it, if it be not made good, before the close of banking hours. The Pennsylvania case was that of the Union National Bank vs. P. S. Peterson & Co., and that in California was that of the National Gold Bank vs. McDonald. The cases are sufficiently described by the references above made to the point at issue.

The variance between the established law and the new decisions will be readily understood and justified when the variance of the old one is pointed out. In the old days the Cashier of the bank was the representative of the bank to its customers; he received the deposits, paid the checks, and kept himself fully informed of the condition of all the accounts kept with the bank. Nowadays the Cashier attends to more important but less active duties. There are receiving-tellers and paying-tellers to discharge functions once united in the Cashier. Custom has limited the duties and responsibilities of the receiving-teller. He passes only upon the manner and form of a deposit; its essential genuineness he does not have to decide. As an extreme case of this we may cite this practice: It is the custom in large banks, during busy hours, when a large amount of small bills is offered by a depositor, to take it at the amount he names, place a strap around it with his name on it, enter the amount to his credit, and if any deficit is found, or bad bills discovered in it, upon a more leisurely count, to call upon him to make the deposit good. In its later decisions, therefore, on the question of the liability of banks for checks deposited, the law has simply yielded, as it did generations ago in the case of bills of exchange, to the change in commercial usage.

TAXATION IN PHILADELPHIA.

New York, Boston, and Philadelphia, according to the official figures, are adding more to the amount of their taxes than to the number of their tax-payers. This is progress in the wrong direction. Philadelphia has gained 39 per cent in population between 1860 and 1875, while taxation has grown 317 per cent, or $8,061,253. The city now has, according to the Philadelphia *Ledger*, about $9,000,000 of dishonored city warrants afloat. Taking the average in the cases of Boston, Philadelphia, and New York, the taxes have increased about fourfold, and the population only one-sixteenth as much as taxation.

THE RAILROADS AND THE DULLNESS IN NEW YORK.

Business in New York last week was even duller than usual, according to the review of the week in the financial column of the New York *Herald*:

> The movements of crops from the interior show a material decrease, owing to the already large accumulation on the seaboard and at the principal shipping points, and the receipts of the latter might be considered a favorable feature if the decline were sufficient to start an export movement, but so long as it only follows instead of leading the Liverpool market the relative position is unaltered; meat while our storehouses are full. The merchants of this city have continued in a feeble sort of way to agitate the subject of railroad discrimination against New York. So far as we are informed the total result of the week's work has been a "committee" visit to Mayor Wickham and the presentation to him of a communication setting forth the grievances to which we are forced to submit. What the Committee expect the Mayor to do, or what power he has in the matter, does not appear in the communication.

The trouble is that the New York merchants are too conservative and consequently too slow. Any less self-contained community would have been stirred into white heat by the discriminations of the trunk lines in favor of Boston, Philadelphia, and Baltimore. In cases within our knowledge, buyers that first went to New York have finally bought from one of these rival points at higher prices. The difference was more than made good to them by the difference in rates. Wealthy as New York is, it has not the capital to compete with the capital of the railroads, but it has power enough in its influence and commerce to make the railroads treat it more fairly. The great instrument for the reform of railroad management, according to Charles Francis Adams, Jr., is the concentration of public attention upon abuses. It was public indignation after the Revere massacre of four years ago that compelled the railroads of Massachusetts to adopt improved platforms and brakes till then ignored. The Cheap Transportation Convention that recently was held in this city entirely overlooked this point. If it had established a committee or bureau to act throughout the year, hear complaints, investigate abuses, and direct public attention to the point where it was needed, it would have provided the agency for a great reform. New York merchants, alone, if they roused themselves, could do much in this way. The railroads must be met by some kind of organization, and the easiest and most peaceful should be tried first.

A NEW EXPORT.

It begins to look as if the grasshopper crop would soon be counted among the valuable products of our country. Grasshoppers are in demand for bait in the French sardine fisheries. Cod's roe has been used for this purpose, but the demand has outstripped the supply, and prices have risen to a high figure. Dr. Morvan, of Douarenez, Finistere, has discovered a substitute for this bait in the locust or grasshopper; which, when prepared in a certain manner, either by boiling or baking, and being afterwards made into a paste, form an excellent lure for the sardine. The export of grasshoppers may thus be used to pay for our imports of sardines.

GOVERNMENTS.

	Bid.	Asked.
United States 6s of 81	123½	124
United States 5-20s of '65	115½	115¾
5-20s of '65---January and July	120	120¼
5-20s of '67---January and July	122½	122¾
5-20s of '68---January and July	122½	122¾
10-40s	117½	118
United States new 5s of 81	116½	117½
United States currency 6s, ex int	121½	

GOLD AND GREENBACKS.

Gold was 113¼@113¾.

Greenbacks were 88¼@88½c on the dollar.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE.

There was no change in rates.

CITY AND COUNTY BONDS.

	Bid.	Asked.
Chicago City 7 ₩ ct. bonds	104¾ & int.	
Chicago City 7 ₩ ct. sewerage	104¾ & int.	
Chicago City 7 ₩ ct. water loan	104¾ & int.	
Cook County 7 ₩ ct. bonds	104¾ & int.	
West Park 7 ₩ ct. bonds		
North Chicago 7 ₩ ct. bonds (Lincoln Park)	97 & int.	
	98 & int.	

BANKS.

There was no change in bank quotations.

MISCELLANEOUS.

	Bid.	Asked.
City Railway, South Side	135	.....
City Railway, West Side	113½	.....
City Railway, North Side	112	.....
Traders' Insurance Company	125	.....
Chamber of Commerce	75	77
Chicago & Northwestern gold bonds, 6s	85	90
Exposition stock	30	35

LATEST.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Gold opened at 113¾, and closed at 113¼, all the sales of the day having been at those figures. The rates for carrying were 2, 2¼, 3, and 1 per cent. Loans were also made flat.

Governments were quiet and steady.

Railroad bonds were dull.

State securities were steady.

Stocks opened firm and high, but soon became weak, and so continued to the close. The decline from the highest point of the day was ½@1¼ per cent. The weakness was caused by the increased rates for money, and the controversy going on between Canada roads and Eastern trunk lines in regard to Westward bound freight. The trunk lines will reduce rates to-morrow.

Transactions at the Stock Exchange were 122,000 shares, of which 17,000 were Pacific Mail, 7,000 Western Union, 6,000 Northwestern, 8,000 St. Paul, 3,000 Erie, 68,000 Lake Shore, and 5,000 Michigan Central.

Money closed at 6@7, after loaning at 7. Prime mercantile paper, 6@8.

Produce exports for the week, $5,287,000.

Customs receipts, $956,000.

The Assistant-Treasurer disbursed $214,000.

Clearings, $21,000,000.

Sterling exchange, 486@490.

GOVERNMENT BONDS.

Coupons, '81	124½	New 5s	116¾
Coupons, '65	114¾	10-40s, regular	117
New	120½	10-40s, coupon	118
Coupons, '67	122½	Currencies	122
Coupons, '68	122¾		

STATE BONDS.

Tennessee, old	40¾	Virginia, new	38
Tennessee, new	39	Missouri	102¾
Virginia, old	37		

STOCKS.

Western Union Tel.	73½	N. J. Central	105
Pacific Mail	38¾	Rock Island	103¾
Mariposa	10¾	St. Paul	33½
Mariposa pfd	16¾	St. Paul pfd	64½
Adams Express	102	Wabash	3
Wells-Fargo	96	Wabash pfd	6
American Express	57	Fort Wayne	98¼
U. S. Express	61¾	Terre Haute	5
New York Central	103¾	Terre Haute pfd	20¾
Erie	19¾	Chicago & Alton	97¾
Erie pfd	30	Chicago & Alton pfd	105¾
Harlem	130	Ohio & Mississippi	16¾
Harlem pfd	130	Del., Lack. & West	19¼
Michigan Central	57	Atlantic & Pacific Tel.	18
Panama	130	Indiana Central	7¾
U. P. stock	72	Chi., Bur. & Quincy	113
Lake Shore	89½	Hannibal & St. Joe	20
Illinois Central	99	Central Pac. bonds	107½
Cle., Col., Cin. & Ind.	89¾	U. P. bonds	103¾
Northwestern	59	U. P. land-grant	103
Northwestern pfd	84	U. P. sinking-fund	93
C., C., C. & I.	58		

MINING STOCKS.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21.

Consolidated Virginia	8 57	Crown Point	20½
California	65½	Yellow Jacket	100½
Segregated Belcher	28	Empire	5½
Ophir	45¾	Alpha	18¾
Challenge	76	Belcher	34½
Savage	34½	Confidence	21½
Imperial	9	Sierra Nevada	20¾
Mexican	18¾	Exchequer	12
Gould & Curry	19¾	Overman	61
Best & Belcher	58¾	Justice	21¾
Hale & Norcross	46¾	Caledonia	20¾

REAL ESTATE.

The following instruments were filed for record Tuesday, Dec. 21:

CITY PROPERTY.

Bissell st, 124 ft s of Centre st, w f, 24x125 ft, dated Dec. 20 ..... $ 350

West Polk st, 46 ft s of Campbell av, s f, 48x124½ ft, dated Dec. 9 2,000

West Congress st, 189¾ ft w of Throop st, s f, 24x110 ft, dated Dec. 21 5,500

West Congress st, 165¾ ft w of Throop st, s f, 24x110 ft, dated Dec. 21 6,000

Prairie av, near Thirty-fourth st, e f, 24x123 ft, dated Dec. 4 2,500

Michigan av, 260 ft n of Twenty-sixth st, e f, 14 6-10x202 ft, dated Dec. 18 16,000

Sigel st, 138 ft w of North Franklin st, s f, 37x143½ ft, dated Dec. 20 800

South Dearborn st, 32 ft s of Thirty-sixth st, e f, 35 1-12x123 ft, with buildings and other property, dated Dec. 2 13,000

West Hanover st, 87 ft e of Oakley av, s f, 1987-100x125 ft, dated Dec. 8 6,500

North Franklin st, 292 ft n of Schiller st, s w f, 40x204 4-10 ft, dated Nov. 23 2,000

Ewing st, 180 ft w of Canal st, n f, 25x116¼ ft, dated Dec. 17 1,500

NORTH OF CITY LIMITS WITHIN A RADIUS OF 7 MILES OF COURT-HOUSE.

Seminary av, n of and near Fullerton av, e f, 50 ft to alley, with brick building, dated Dec 4 7,000

SOUTH OF CITY LIMITS WITHIN A RADIUS OF 7 MILES OF COURT-HOUSE.

Burroughs av, 375 ft s of Fifty-second st, e f, 50x125 ft, dated Nov. 4 ..... $ 1,000

Morris st, w of and near Stewart av, n f, 24x124 ft, dated Sept. 21 750

Same is the above, dated Dec. 21 750

Walnut st, 264 ft w of Sacramento av, s f, 50x125 ft, dated Nov. 19 600

Seventy-two by 125 ft in same block as above, dated Dec. 21 1,500

Woodlawn av, 250 ft n of Fifty-fifth st, w f, 40 1-3 ft, dated Nov. 20 2,000

COMMERCIAL.

The following were the receipts and shipments of the leading articles of produce in this city during the twenty-four hours ending at 7 o'clock on Tuesday morning, and for the corresponding date one year ago:

	RECEIPTS.		SHIPMENTS.	
	1875.	1874.	1875.	1874.
Flour, brls	12,022	11,320	12,272	8,872
Wheat, bu	70,676	69,640	19,786	15,477
Corn, bu	84,540	92,003	13,964	39,174
Oats, bu	38,049	23,815	15,824	9,781
Rye, bu	3,087	2,490	392	.....
Barley, bu	25,000	12,320	8,723	7,373
Grass seed, lbs	32,929	63,925	55,050	79,318
Flax seed, lbs	259,760	21,000	53,356	20,500
Broom-corn, lbs	7,000	52,000	44,779	280
Dr'd meats, lbs	447,160	318,620	2,396,974	1,726,765
Beef, bbls	70	210	259	80
Pork, brls	335	168	1,900	893
Lard, lbs	147,800	24,000	2,046,017	141,445
Tallow, lbs	18,325	30,804	43,351	.....
Butter, lbs	78,022	89,279	46,165	58,669
Dressed hogs	1,030	2,052	1,048	2,194
Live hogs, lbs	21,940	17,016	2,138	1,728
Cattle, No	2,576	1,801	613	227
Sheep, No	2,210	2,054	1,190	1,839
Hides, lbs	176,443	361,234	315,618	237,640
Highwines, brls	50	332	236	267
Wool, lbs	104,527	9,120	30,420	112,740
Potatoes, bus	66	87	.....	.....
Lumber, No ft	340,000	194,000	600,000	904,800
Shingles, No	310,000	206,000	253,000	674,500
Salt, brls	207	470	3,526	1,679
Poultry, lbs	136,677	58,490	159,841	82,260
Poultry, coops	23	145	.....	.....
Game, pkgs	113	112	.....	.....
Eggs, pkgs	425	364	13	3
Cheese, brls	293	268	64	578
G. apples, brls	161	2	.....	.....
Hay, tons	330	27	.....	40

Withdrawn from store on Monday for city consumption: 7,408 bu wheat, 525 bu oats, 1,183 bu rye.

The following grain was inspected into store on Tuesday morning: 1 car No. 1 spring, 41 cars No. 2 do, 41 cars No. 3 do, 14 cars rejected do (97 wheat); 20 cars high mixed corn, 20 cars No. 2 do, 49 cars rejected do, 19 cars no grade do (108 corn); 3 cars white oats, 7 cars No. 2 do, 3 cars rejected do (13 oats); 15 cars No. 2 rye, 1 car rejected do; 19 cars No. 2 barley, 7 cars No. 3 do, 4 cars rejected do. Total, 254 cars, or 98,000 bu. Inspected out, 10,633 bu wheat, 4,166 bu corn, 1,075 bu oats, 761 bu rye, 6,651 bu barley.

The railroad companies are now discriminating against Chicago with a vengeance. In former winters our merchants have not complained when grain was carried to the seaboard from interior points at "freights equal" to those from Chicago, but they are scarcely prepared to indorse the present condition of things by their silence. We have good authority for the statement that flour is now being taken from Milwaukee, through Chicago, to New York, at 80c per brl, while the same roads charge 90c per brl from Chicago to New York. And that is understood to be only a sample of the way in which the railroads are playing the cutthroat game on the merchants of this city, who accord them special facilities for transacting their business at the expense of Chicago interests. It is about time for our merchants to open their eyes to the situation, and take measures to cure the monstrous evil. They can do it if they will try.

The leading produce markets were very irregular yesterday. Provisions, corn, and barley were lower, while wheat and oats were firmer. There was not much doing for shipment, the trading being chiefly speculative and for delivery after this month. The option business for the current year is pretty well settled up, except in corn.

Dry goods were ordered to a moderate aggregate at steady prices. There was some activity in the lines adapted to the holiday trade, but the general market was without animation. Groceries were firm and unchanged. The quiet usually prevalent at this season now pervades all departments of the market, and no important price fluctuations are anticipated at present. Prices of butter and cheese remain as before. Foreign dried fruits are in active demand, the sales of prunes, currants, and Valencia raisins being unprecedented. Domestic dried remain inactive. There was but little trading in fish and canned goods. Coal and wood remain dull. Leather, bagging, paints, oils, and tobacco remain quiet and unchanged.

Lumber was quiet and unchanged. The metal and hardware dealers report a quiet but steady market for nearly everything in their line, and quote tin-plates firm in consequence of a recent advance elsewhere. The wool and hide markets were rather quiet but steady, and broom-corn was moderately active. Hay and seeds were again rather quiet and generally easy, although the offerings, except perhaps of flax, were small. Poultry and game were dull and weak, and receivers were anxious to sell, as the soft weather is having a bad effect on the offerings, especially of poultry, and there was little inquiry, and that was confined to the city trade.

GRAIN IN STORE.

The following are the footings of the official report of grain in store in this city on the evening of Saturday last, and at corresponding dates:

	Dec. 18, 1875.	Dec. 11, 1875.	Dec. 19, 1874.
Wheat—			
No. 1 red	2,817	2,837	291
No. 2 red	2,817	2,837	8,193
No. 3 winter	2,374	2,374	4,730
Rejected winter	3,052	2,931	1,121
No. 1 spring	23,912	24,199	46,817
No. 2 spring	952,049	885,975	1,137,057
No. 3 spring	494,911	408,925	238,883
Rejected spring	104,816	83,642	21,328
No grade spring	425	1,113	663
No. 1 N. W. spring	8,394	14,249	73,362
No. 2 N. W. spring	489,928	456,449	363,189
Total	2,088,218	1,883,741	1,884,636
Corn—			
No. 1	.....	.....	834
No. 2	138,007	132,514	439,511
Rejected	9,617	9,945	18,258
No grade	778	438	2,459
High mixed	35,222	39,744	108,574
New do	9,042	2,763	28,681
Yellow	.....	.....	5,254
New rejected	27,110	9,228	253,081
New No. 2	33,237	15,691	199,654
Total	313,033	251,344	1,076,334
Oats—			
No. 2	337,555	223,081	291,770
Rejected	21,247	27,335	23,602
No grade	.....	942	2,398
No. 2 white	30,983	32,360	48,136
Total	389,785	383,718	365,920
Rye—			
No. 1	386	386	.....
No. 2	139,784	134,955	18,646
New No. 2	.....	2,225	.....
Rejected	769	473	3,219
Total	140,889	138,040	19,765
Barley—			
No. 1	74,016	83,315	14,000
No. 2	177,905	176,728	248,333
New No. 2	2,965	2,965	.....
No. 3	47,199	46,449	37,006
New No. 3	309	309	.....
Rejected	17,191	17,249	19,845
New rejected	4,866	4,866	.....
Total	324,351	331,924	319,273

Total of all kinds in store, 3,253,226 bu. These figures show a decrease during last week of 7,873 bu barley; and an increase of 241,477 bu wheat, 61,739 bu corn, 6,067 bu oats, 2,949 bu rye. Total increase, 304,559 bu.

PROVISIONS.

HOG PRODUCTS—Were more active than on Monday for cash lots, while the speculative trading was rather less in volume, and the market ruled firm on the decline of the previous day. The receipts of hogs were fair, and prices lower, under a persistent holding off on the part of packers, who seem determined to establish what they consider to be a safe basis for work, or else to let it alone. But holders of product were not willing to make concessions, claiming that prices are now scarcely up to the cost of manufacture, and there were more buying orders on the floor, a good many bids being made at less figures than sellers were willing to accept. The tone of the market was more healthy than heretofore, there being less anxiety to sell short, arguing more confidence in the future of values, in spite of the effort to force down the market for hogs.

MESS PORK—Was in moderate demand, and advanced 2½@5c per brl, though quoted inactive in New York, and dull in Cincinnati. Sales were reported of 640 brls cash at $19.00@19.10; 750 brls seller the month at $19.07½@19.10; 6,500 brls seller February at $19.30@19.35; and 2,500 brls seller March at $19.52½@19.60. Total, 11,390 brls. The market closed firm at $19.10 cash or seller the year, $19.10@19.12½ seller January, $19.35@19.37½ seller February, and $19.55@19.60 for March.

Prime mess pork was quoted at $17.00, and extra prime do at $14.25. Sales were 100 brls prime mess at $17.00; 140 brls extra prime at $14.25. Also 10 brls clear at $21.25.

LARD—Was very quiet till near the end of the session, when a good demand sprung up, and cash lots were firmer, while futures were unchanged. New York was firm, and Cincinnati quoted easier. Sales were reported of 1,200 lbs cash at $12.30; 100 tcs do (choice) at $12.70; 1,250 tcs seller the month at $12.17½; 1,500 tcs seller January at $12.20@12.25; 6,000 tcs seller February at $12.37½@12.40; and 1,750 tcs seller March at $12.55. Total, 11,800 tcs. The market closed quiet at $12.17½ cash or seller the year, $12.27½@12.25 for January, $12.40@12.42½ for February, and at $12.55 for March.

MEATS—Were in better demand for part salted lots for shipment and for delivery after the close of the regular packing season, and prices were firmer. Options were well sustained, some being a shade firmer. Green meats were dull and easy, the warmer weather being unfavorable for handling them, hence curers did little but look for prices. There were reported of 205 boxes shoulders at 7¼@7¾c, chiefly on the close, and 100 boxes do green do at 6¾c; 10 boxes Cumberlands at 10¼c; 15 boxes long clears at 10c; 100 boxes long and short clears at 10½c; 450,000 lbs short ribs at 10¾c seller March, and 10½c for April; 175,000 lbs green do at 9¾c; cash and seller January; 10 boxes part salted do at 10½c cash; 16,000 lbs green hams (16 lbs) at 10c; 35 boxes long cut hams at 10¼c; 100 tcs bacon hams at 13¾c. The market closed at the following range of prices:

	Mess.	Mess.	Long Clear	Short Clear.	Sh'rt rib.	Lard.
	cash.	clear.	cash.	rib.	clear.	
Green	6¾	9¾	9¾	9¾		
Part salted	6¾	9¾	10¼	10¼		
Boxed	7¼@7¾	9¾	10¼	10¼		
January	19.00	19.00	10¼	10¼	10¼	12.30
March	19.55	19.55	10½	10½	10½	12.55
April	19.55	19.55	10½	10½	10½	12.55

Long and short clears quoted at 10¼@ cash, and 10½@ seller January; green hams, 10@ cash, 10½@ sweet-pickled do, 10¾@11¼c; Cumberlands, 10½@ cash or seller January; long cut hams, 11@ 11¾c, boxed; bacon hams, 13½@13¾c.

GREASE—Was nominal at 7@8c.

BEEF PRODUCTS—Were steady and quiet at $9.50@10.00 for mess, $10.50@11.00 for extra mess, and $20.00@21.00 for hams.

TALLOW—Was quoted at 8¼@8¾c.

BREADSTUFFS.

FLOUR—Was again dull, but the feeling was a firmer one, in sympathy with wheat, there being less disposition among holders to make concessions. Some inquiry for export was visible early, but nothing came of it, as sellers could not meet the views of buyers. Sales were reported of 25 brls winters in private term; 465 brls spring extras partly at $4.00@5.50; and 200 brls rye flour, partly at $4.90. Total, 690 brls. The market closed nominally at the following range of prices: Choice winter extras, $5.50@7.50; common to good do, $5.00@5.50; spring extras, $4.00@4.25; good do, $4.50@4.75; choice do, $5.00@5.25; patents do, $6.50@7.25; Minnesota, $5.25@6.25; spring superfines, $3.00@3.50; rye flour, $4.25@4.40; and buckwheat do, $5.50@5.75.

BRAN—Was less active but firmer, the recent decline having reduced the volume of offerings. Sales were reported of 30 tons at $10.25 on track, and $10.50 free on board cars.

SHORTS—Sales were 10 tons at $10.00 on track.

MIDDLINGS—Sales were 5 tons good at $14.00.

CORN-MEAL—Coarse (new) was nominal at $16.00 on track.

WHEAT—Was active and stronger, advancing 2c per bu from the decline of Monday afternoon. The chief cause of the stronger feeling was the report of 6d per quarter advance in England, following a similar rise last Saturday. This brought out buyers in force, though New York was dull, and some prominent local shorts filled in freely, while the lesser ones followed suit. There was a better demand for shipment, and the lower grades were strong, especially as the receipts were smaller, though considerably in excess of the shipments. There was also a larger inquiry for investment, for February, and the premium on that deal widened to 1½c in consequence. The feeling was strong throughout. It is known that Chicago prices are relatively higher than those of Liverpool, but it was widely thought probable that the British markets are now at the beginning of an upward movement, due to diminishing stocks and the cutting off of supplies by the ice blockade in Northern European ports. Some were inclined to believe that the English stocks have been overestimated, as the total for the United States was a couple of weeks ago. Added to this is the report that the harvest season in England has been a very unsatisfactory one, on account of bad weather, which has induced grave apprehensions in regard to the yield of next harvest. The prospect for prices here is certainly more cheering to holders, but it yet lacks a long time to the opening of lake navigation, and 2@c per bu railroad freights to the seaboard will operate as a very strong conservative argument on the wheat of the West during the winter months. Seller January opened at 97¾c, rose to 98¼c, fell back to 97¾c, and advanced to 98¾c, closing at 98¾c. Seller February sold at 98¾@99¼c, closing at 99¼c, and seller May sold at $1.06¾@1.07¼, closing nominally at the outside. Cash No. 2 spring or seller the month, sold at 98c, and No. 3 do at 79¼c. Cash sales were reported of 1,000 bu No. 1 spring at $1.02; 41,000 bu No. 2 do at 97¾@98¾; 11,400 bu No. 3 do at 79@79¾c; 8,800 bu rejected do at 65¾@66c, and 3,600 bu by sample at 70@c $1.01. Total, 64,800 bu.

MINNESOTA WHEAT—Was in good demand, and 1¼c higher, but quiet because of light offerings. Sales were limited to 1,000 bu No. 1 at $1.15, and 3,200 bu No. 2 at $1.00. Total, 4,200 bu.

CORN—Was dull and irregular. Liverpool was quoted 6d per 480 lbs lower, and New York declined in sympathy, while our receipts were fair for the season, though no large as on Monday, and the shipments were light. For these reasons the market for present delivery was ½@¾c lower, and the premium on cash No. 2 was reduced to 2c. The parties who are running the deal for this month seem to be sap-pur-ized (as Silas Wegg put it) at the increased receipts of this week, and it was surmised that they were letting the market down for the purpose of keeping the corn back in the country till the New Year. Futures sympathized to some extent with the year ahead, but recovered, and January closed ¼c higher than the previous day, the receipts not being large enough to cause fears of a further decline on next month. There was a better demand for sample lots. Seller the month opened at 47¾c, declined to 47c, and closed with cash No. 2 (new or old) at 47¼c. Seller January sold at 43¼@44c, closing at 43¾c. Seller February sold at 43¾@43¾c, and seller May at 46¾@47c. Both closing at the outside. Cash sales were reported of 2,000 bu old high mixed at 48c; 1,000 bu new do at 45c; 45,000 bu No. 2 at 47¼@48c; 400 jo old rejected at 40¾c; 14,000 bu new do at 45c; 1,200 bu new no grade at 36c; 1,200 bu new yellow at 39c free on board; and 21,600 bu by sample at 35@38¾c, part free on board. Total, 85,600 bu.

OATS—Were in moderate demand and a shade firmer than the closing of the previous evening. There was some inquiry from the shorts, who were changing over or buying cash to deliver, otherwise there was little doing, and the firmer feeling was attributed chiefly to the advance in corn and wheat. The reported receipts were larger, and the stock in store has increased slightly during the past week, but holders manifested little anxiety to sell. Cash or December sold at 27¾@30c, and January at 30¾@31¼c, both closing at the outside; February sold at 30¾@30¾c, and May at 34½c. Rejected was nominal at 26@27c. Cash sales were reported of 49,000 bu No. 2 at 29¾@30c; 2,400 bu by sample at 30@30c on track; and 3,000 bu do at 31@35c free on board. Total, 57,400 bu.

RYE—Was quiet and easy. The offerings were small; but few buyers were present, and they held back, bidding 68c for No. 2, which was held at 68½c. The offerings of samples were larger, and enabled several to fill their orders without seeking the regular market. Rejected was quoted at 65c. Sales: 38,000 bu No. 2, partly on contract, at 68@68½c; 1,600 bu by sample at 67½@70c on track.

BARLEY—Was rather dull and weak, under increased receipts. The shorts were picking up car-lots, to fill out their contracts, and some were changing over into February. The parties who were supposed to be working up a corner appear to be letting the market take its own course. The receipts were reported to be 30 cars, of which the 19 cars of No. 2 was understood to be Canada. Several cars of California intended for this market are also said to be near the city. The stock in store decreased slightly during the week, No. 2 cash sold at 86c, and the lower grades were unchanged. No. 3 selling at 50@52c and rejected at 38@40c. Samples were very dull, and some receivers have recently found it necessary to have their offerings inspected into store. Seller December sold at 86c and February at 84c, both closing with sellers at those prices. January was nominal at 83c. Cash sales were reported of 1,600 bu No. 2 at 83c; 2,000 bu No. 3 (N. S.) at 62c; 1,600 bu rejected at 59@60c; 1,200 bu by sample at 41@ 95c on track. Total, 6,400 bu.

LATEST.

In the early afternoon provisions were in fair request, and firmer. Sales: 1,750 brls mess pork at $19.20@19.30 seller February, $19.62½ seller March, and $19.12½ seller January; 1,000 tcs lard at $12.42½@ 12.45 seller February, and $12.60 seller March; also 1,500 pcs green hams, averaging 18 lbs, at 9¾c.

Wheat was moderately active and ¾c lower, under large offerings, closing at 98@98¾c for January, and about 97¼c cash.

Corn declined ¼c, closing at 43¼c for January, 47c for December, and 43¾c for February.

Oats and barley were inactive, and nominally unchanged.

CALL BOARD.

Mess pork was moderately active and 2½@3c higher, closing at $19.12½@19.15 seller December, $19.17½@ 19.20 seller January, and $19.40@19.45 seller February. Sales: 2,500 brls, at $19.15 seller December, $19.17½@ 19.20 seller January, $19.65 seller March, and $19.90 seller April.

Lard was quiet and firm at the early advance, closing at $12.20@12.22½ for December, $12.25@12.27½ for January, $12.42½@12.45 for February, and $12.60 for March. Sales: 500 tcs seller March at $12.60.

GENERAL MARKETS.

ALCOHOL—Was steady at $2.20.

BROOM-CORN—Was steady under a moderate inquiry. The receipts have fallen off, but trade continues good for the time of year. Quotations: Choice old hurl, 10@11c; hurl, 7@8½c; choice medium, 6@7c; good medium brush, 5@6c; fair inside and covers, 4½@5c; inferior, 3½@4c; crooked, 2@5c.

BUTTER—The market was fairly active, and firm for anything fit for table use. Low and medium grades were dealt in rather sparingly, and showed some irregularity. We make no change in our quotations: Choice to fancy yellow, 25@30c; medium to good grades, 18@23c; inferior to common, 13@17c; common to choice roll, 18@25c.

BAGGING—But slight change was observable in the bagging market. Trade remains inactive at nominally unchanged prices. We quote: Stark A, 27c; Lewiston, 26½c; Montaup, 25½c; Ontario, 25c; American A, 24c; Amoskeag, 24½c; burlap-bags, 4 bu, 14@15c; do, 5 bu, 15@16c; gunnies, single, 13@15c; do, double, 23@26c.

CHEESE—There was a dull market for this staple. Orders were few and for small amounts. Prices remain easy at 8@10c for poor to medium, and at 11@13c for good to fancy.

COAL—Orders were for small amounts and were promptly filled at the quotations annexed: Lehigh, $10.25; Lackawanna, range and nut, $10.00; do egg, $9.50; cannel, $7.00@8.00; Blossburg, $7.50@ 8.00; Hocking Valley, $6.50; Indiana block, $6.00; Baltimore & Ohio, $6.50; Illinois, $4.50@5.00.

COOPERAGE—Pork barrels sold at $1.00, and lard tierces at $1.20@1.25. The demand was light, and prices remain nominal.

DRESSED HOGS—Were dull and lower. The receipts were larger, five product declined, and the weather was very bad for handling the stock. Shippers made some inquiries for straight cars of choice, bidding $8.00 per 100 lbs, and refused weights and small lots sold at $7.75. Sales, 301 head at $7.75@8.00.

EGGS—Were in moderate request at 24@25c for fresh packages, and slow at 18@22c for pickled. The receipts were liberal, and, although there is little else than a local demand, prices are generally maintained.

FISH—No signs of activity were apparent in the fish trade. There was a little inquiry from local country dealers at the rates of prices previously given: No. 1 whitefish, $4.75; No. 2 do, $5.25; No. 1 trout, $4.50; No. 1 shore mackerel, new, ¾ brl, $12.50@13.00; No. 1 bay, March, and 10½c for April; 175,000 lbs green do at 9¾c; family mackerel, ¾ brl, $8.75@9.00; No. 1 bay kits, $2.00; No. 1 bay kits, $1.50; large family kits, $1.10@1.15; bank cod-fish, $3.75@4.00; George's cod-fish, $6.00@6.25; new Labrador herring, split, $5.50@6.00; new Labrador herring, round, brls, $6.25@6.50; do kits, $1.50@1.75; Holland scaled herring, per box, 44@45c; Columbia River salmon, ¾ brl, $8.25@8.50.

FRUITS AND NUTS—All descriptions of imported fruits are meeting with an active demand, while in prunes, currants, and Valencia raisins the movement is more active. Apples, peaches, and other domestic dried fruits remain inactive. Prunes are quoted a ¼c lower, and currants a ½c higher. Brazil nuts have advanced a ¼c: Foreign, Almonds, 16@ 18c; figs, layers, 16@17c; figs, drums, new, 14@15c; Turkish prunes, new, 7@7½c; French prunes, kegs and boxes, 8@13c; raisins, layers, new $3.00@3.75; loose Muscatel, new, $3.40@3.50; Valencia, 11@11½c; Zante currants, 7½@8c; citron, 25@27c; Domestic—Alden apples, 1@2c; Michigan apples, 1@1½c; Indiana and Illinois,

THE COURTS.

Further Complexity in the Affairs of the Illinois Railway Construction Company.

Motion to Remove Mr. Hancock from the Receivership---A Many-Sided Litigation.

Jury for the Whisky Cases Ordered in the United States District Court.

Various Bankruptcy Proceedings---Suit Against Sheriff Agnew, etc.

THE CHICAGO RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY.

A motion was made Monday in the case of the Commercial Loan Company vs. the Chicago Railway Construction Company to have the Receiver heretofore appointed removed, on the ground that he had failed to perform his duty. Notice was served on the Receiver that the motion would be argued yesterday, and at 4 p. m. the case was called up before Judge Moore, who, although the Courts had adjourned for the day on account of the election, found time after voting to comply with the urgent requests of the attorneys and hear the motion. Mr. George C. Campbell made the application by reading a copy of the motion and rule and affidavit of service, and asking that Mr. Hancock should be discharged, and also ruled to show cause why he should not be attached for contempt, in disobeying the injunction issued Monday restraining him from doing anything further in reference to the matters of which he had charge.

Mr. Tenney replied in behalf of Mr. Hancock, showing that the injunction was not served on Hancock until late Monday evening, and that the argument before Judge Blodgett yesterday as a reference to filing an intervening petition in the bankruptcy proceedings against the Chicago & Illinois River Railroad Company to restrain the prosecution of two suits against the Company, Mr. Hancock had committed contempt, and that being the matter in which it was alleged Mr. Hancock had committed contempt, he had yesterday morning in pursuance of an agreement made the day previous, and that Judge Blodgett did not know of such argument, and had therefore, not been guilty of any contempt.

Mr. Bisbee followed, stating that it was at his instance that Mr. Hancock had filed the intervening petition, and he considered that the Receiver had only done his duty. He was bound to see that the Company of which he was Receiver should not lose its assets by any suit, and he had only sought to do what he was obliged by law to do.

Mr. E. B. Sherman, on behalf of a judgment creditor, said that he thought that Mr. Hancock had not done his duty, as he had submitted to the dictation of a party interested in the destruction of the Illinois River Railroad, and of the Construction Company. Mr. Hunter followed to clear his clients, the Peckis, from the allegations made that they were not acting in good faith in prosecuting their claims on eighty-eight bonds of the Illinois River Road.

Mr. Crawford then made one of his characteristic sharp and bitter speeches, in which he handled Mr. Bisbee and Mr. Hancock without gloves. The Chicago & Alton Railroad also came in for a share of the blame, and it was charged with having attempted to eat up the Illinois River Company.

Considerable discussion followed, in which Mr. Campbell, Mr. Crawford, and George H. Clark took part, but all the attorneys disclaimed any desire to have the Receiver punished for contempt, only wishing to have him removed because he had been induced to ally himself with the Beckwith interest, and thereby shown that he was not entirely impartial. The matter was finally settled in part by the following order made by Judge Moore:

The case coming on to be heard on motion, etc., it is now ordered that Bradford Hancock, the Receiver herein, withdraw his motion for injunction in the petition in the matter of the Chicago & Illinois River Railroad Company in bankruptcy now pending in the District Court of the United States for the Northern District of Illinois, and that he ask for no further order or proceeding in that behalf until further order of the Court.

The motion for an injunction against the Dana and Frisbie & Rappleye was set for Monday morning but adjourned until yesterday, when it was heard by Judge Blodgett and taken under advisement. The motion for removal will be heard to-morrow morning before Judge Moore. The discussion was unusually bitter, and when the motion for injunction in the case of Hudnutt vs. The Chicago & Alton Road, the Illinois River Road, and the Construction Company, which is set for Jan. 4, 1876, before Judge Drummond, comes up, there will be a lively time. There is a large amount of the most bitter animosity against the Chicago & Alton Road and Judge Beckwith, and, to use the expression of one of the attorneys yesterday, it will be "war to the knife."

ITEMS.

In the United States Courts the Commissioners were ordered to report thirty jurors, and a special venire was issued returnable Jan. 11, 1876.

Judges Moore and Gary were the only Judges who transacted any business yesterday, the others having adjourned for the day.

Next Friday will be the last day of service in the Superior Court for the January term. New calendars will be issued.

DIVORCES.

Wilhelmine Staab claims that her husband, Franz Staab, has abused her so shamefully and for so long a time that her stock of patience has been exhausted, and yesterday she filed a bill for divorce.

UNITED STATES COURTS.

W. H. Leatherbee and John L. Batchelder, trustees, commenced a suit against Daniel T. and Sadie T. Hale, Frederick B. De Berard, and E. A. Webb, to foreclose a trust-deed for $8,000 on Lot 7, Block 3, in William Jones' Addition to Chicago.

BANKRUPTCY MATTERS.

Bernard Pike was adjudicated bankrupt yesterday by confession, and a warrant issued returnable Jan. 17.

In the matter of Rosenbaum, Nitchell & Co. an order was issued for the examination of the debtors to be held before the Register.

A second-dividend meeting will be held Jan. 11 in the matter of John E. Pettibone.

A composition meeting of the creditors of John Mayo will be held Dec. 28 before the Register.

H. H. Thomas was yesterday appointed Assignee of Thomas Foster.

An Assignee will be chosen this morning for the estate of William H. Squire.

SUPREME COURT IN BRIEF.

The Excelsior Stone Company sued Francis Agnew for $1,000.

R. M. Hooker brought suit for $1,200 against William H. Haskell.

Patterson, Blair & Co. commenced an action against Samuel Holderman, claiming $3,000.

The North Evanston Marble and Granite Company sued Cornelius W. Kelton and John B. Williams for $1,500.

Samuel W. and T. S. Fullam brought suit for $3,000 against Philip Lannon and A. J. Fish.

Edward Boss, for the use of H. G. Schufeldt, commenced an action for $3,000 against the City of Chicago.

J. J. Townsend and E. L. Wainthrop, executors, sued the City of Chicago for $22,000.

THE CALL.

JUDGE BLODGETT—Passed cases.

JUDGE GARY—219, 221 to 223, and 225 to 240.

JUDGE MOORE—36, 37, 38.

JUDGE ROGERS—186 to 201.

JUDGE BLOYN—Term No. 954. No call until further notice.

JUDGE MCALLISTER—223, 226 to 236, except 230.

JUDGE FARWELL—No call.

JUDGMENTS.

SUPREME COURT—CONFESSION—John Bender vs. Charles H. Baker, $727.47.—Frank Lensenbarth vs. Samuel L. Campbell, $1,336.85.

SUPERIOR COURT—Joseph Vaikor et al. vs. Theodore T. Bera, $124.11.

CIRCUIT COURT—CONFESSIONS—Fridolin Madlener vs. Joseph and Andreas Reinwald, $291.

A CHICAGOAN IN FLORIDA.

Special Correspondence of The Chicago Tribune.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Nov. 28.—We arrived safe and all right at Spring Garden, without any delay by water, except the necessary tarry at Jacksonville to purchase supplies. I found my animal stores in fine condition, notwithstanding the cold. This has been the dryest season known in Florida for many years. The drought favored the setting out and increasing the size of my grounds during the summer. I now have 60 acres, looking finely, and shall add about 30 acres more during the winter,—most of the land being now cleared and ready to set. I have about 12,000 trees in my grounds, ready for budding with the best quality of fruit, which, by next season, the express or several companies will have arrangements completed so that we can, even in midwinter, ship our fruit without delay or danger of loss by frost, and for a reasonable consideration. Freight by express is now about $15 per barrel.

A number of settlers have come to our plan already. One has built him a block-house, and moved in; he is an enterprising Canadian-Scotchman, from Chippewa Falls, Wis. Another is from Chicago,—C. Delano,—not Columbus, as he was supposed to be on his arrival in Jacksonville,—but our old friend Charley, who, with his wife, is well pleased with the plan. He has purchased 56 acres, and expects to have at least 10 acres cleared and planted with orange-trees before he leaves for Chicago in the spring. He could not wait to hew his logs, or to get the lumber and build a frame, as he was in a hurry to get the land cleared for the orange-trees. So he just pulled the bark from the logs, and put them up without hewing. I have not yet a hotel or keeper here; will have a building started, to hold a few people, I think next week. A man from Albany, N. Y., has partially agreed to begin, and have about twenty rooms ready for guests in a month.

S. H. N.

THE CENTENNIAL.

Some Facts and Figures.

At the Centennial banquet to the President and Congressmen, at Philadelphia, on Saturday, the presiding officer, Mr. Bullitt, in the course of his remarks, gave the following facts and figures:

On the 4th of July, 1874, the first shovel of earth was removed by the Mayor of Philadelphia from the spot on which now stands Memorial Hall. Since that time there have been inclosed for the use of the Exhibition 230 acres.

The following buildings have been erected, and have either been completed, or are in a condition to be completed, in ample time for the Exhibition:

	Acres.
The main building covering	21.47
Art Gallery (Memorial Hall)	1.50
Machinery Hall	14.00
Horticultural Hall	1.50
Agricultural building	10.15
Making a total of	48.62

Add to this other structures, such as the Government, leather, carriage, and photograph buildings, of about 12 acres, and it will give of actual flooring for exhibition purposes about 60.00

This is exclusive of the space occupied by the buildings erected by foreign nations, the several States, and for general purposes connected with the Exhibition. The whole of them will not be less in number than 150 buildings. Compare this work for a moment with the great exhibitions that have taken place in other parts of the world. The following is a list of exhibitions elsewhere, with the space covered and the cost of erection:

	Space covered.	Cost.
London, 1851	29 acres.	$1,440,000
New York, 1853	6½ acres.	500,000
Paris, 1855	30 acres.	4,000,000
London, 1862	24 acres.	2,300,000
Paris, 1867	40½ acres.	4,500,750
Vienna, 1873	50 acres.	9,850,600
Philadelphia, 1876	60 acres.	6,734,350

List of foreign nations that have accepted the invitation to take part, with the amounts appropriated for expenses, as far as ascertained:

Great Britain, with Australia and Canada (gold)	$250,000	Chili	[Owner of all goods exhibited, and all expenses]
France and Algeria	120,000		
Germany	175,000	Hayti	
Russia		Venezuela	
Austria	75,000	Greece	[Government can't unlimited.]
Italy (Government $38,000, Chamber of Commerce, $38,000)	76,000	Mexico	
Spain	150,000	Ecuador	$ 10,000
Japan	600,000	Nicaragua	
China		Peruvia	
Belgium	40,000	Liberia	
Denmark (gold)	10,500	Siam	
Sweden	125,000	Guatemala and Salvadore	
Norway	40,000	Honduras	
Netherlands		United States of Columbia	
[Ample provision; amount not yet known.]		Hawaii	
Portugal		Argentine Confederation	60,000
Turkey		[Owner of all goods exhibited.]	
Egypt		Tunis	
Brazil		Orange Free States	
Peru		Total	36
Bolivia			

Foreign nations that have erected and will erect buildings:

Great Britain	3	Egypt	2
Germany	1	Canada	1
Brazil	1	Australia	1
Sweden	2	Turkey	1
Japan	3	Morocco	1
Spain	2		—
Nations	11		
Buildings	18		

Space taken by foreign nations in Exhibition buildings:

	Total area of building.	Foreign space.
Main Building	19.4	1-24
Art Building (to be increased)	1.50 over 80	per cent
Machinery Hall	14.00 about 25	per cent
Horticultural Hall	1.50	1-7
Agricultural Hall	14.15	1-3

The following States have had the ground selected within the inclosure, and are having the work prepared for the erection of buildings for the use of their citizens and exhibitors:

Pennsylvania,	New York,	Nevada,
Ohio,	Connecticut,	Wisconsin,
Indiana,	Massachusetts,	Iowa,
Illinois,	Missouri,	Minnesota,
Michigan,	Kansas,	Arkansas,
New Jersey,	West Virginia,	

The amounts of money which have been subscribed and appropriated toward the work are as follows:

Total stock subscriptions, reliable	$2,357,750
In which are included:	
New Jersey	$100,000
Delaware	10,000
Connecticut	10,000
New Hampshire	10,000
Wilmington, Del	5,000
	135,000
Gifts, concessions, and interest	200,000
Further receipts from concessions	100,000
Appropriation by Pennsylvania	1,000,000
Appropriation by Philadelphia	1,000,000
Making a total of	$5,157,750
Amount still required to prepare for opening up to May 10, 1876	1,537,100
Total cost	$6,724,850

Of these subscriptions and appropriations, about 90 per cent have been furnished by the State of Pennsylvania and the City of Philadelphia and their citizens.

ROW AT AN ENTERTAINMENT.

Special Correspondence of The Chicago Tribune.

MORRIS, Ill., Dec. 20.—Hull's Hall was, on last Saturday evening, the scene of one of the most disgraceful rows which it has been my duty to chronicle for a long time. It was on the occasion of the performance of the very excellent troupe of Miss Celia Berger. In the midst of the entertainment, while the most pleasing part of the programme was being rendered by the Willis Sisters, a party of drunken rowdies, after having rendered the atmosphere in the hall sickening with cheap tobacco-smoke and obscene language, inaugurated a general row by assaulting every one near them, and going for the stage particularly. Revolvers were freely drawn, and the wildest confusion reigned for a time. Fortunately, however, no serious bodily injury was suffered by any of the audience or actors. There were no police present, as usual, and no arrests made. Through the assistance of several of the better class of gentlemen present, order was finally restored, but not until the whole audience was thoroughly disgusted and frightened, and many driven to leave the hall, the actors driven from the stage, and the audience robbed of the pleasure of an amusing and interesting entertainment.

JOURNALISTIC.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 21.—The *Journal* to-morrow will make the following announcement:

The one-third interest in the *Journal* held by Col. W. R. Holloway has been sold and transferred to E. B. Martindale. When the *Journal* was purchased, in October last, it was thought that Col. Holloway would be able to devote a certain portion of his time to the business of the newspaper without interfering with his duties as Postmaster, but this having been proven impracticable, he has preferred to withdraw from the *Journal* in order to devote his exclusive attention to his public official duties. It is proper for the remaining proprietor (Martindale) to say in the most emphatic manner that there never were other than amicable personal and business relations existing between himself and Col. Holloway, and that this separation is made with regret for the loss of one whose large newspaper experience and ability have always commended him to the confidence of the public and the journalistic profession.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

LANSING, Mich., Dec. 21.—Mr. Kendall Ketridge, formerly of the Mason *News*, has bought Mr. Saunders' interest in the Charlotte *Republican*, the political character of which will remain as its name indicates. Mr. Saunders removes to Detroit to engage in the condensed news printing business for local papers.

EXCOMMUNICATED.

SHENANDOAH, Pa., Dec. 21.—At services in the Catholic Church at Mahanoy Plain the Rev. Daniel O'Connor, the pastor, read a letter from Archbishop Wood, of Philadelphia, which was the formal excommunication of the Society known as the "Molly Maguires," otherwise "The Ancient Order of Hibernians."

A LITTLE SHORT.

The Commercial Loan Company's Assets Shrink Somewhat.

It Proves to Have Been Tangled Up with a Railway Construction Company.

Prospects of the Depositors.

It was announced in THE TRIBUNE of yesterday that the Commercial Loan Company, which has been doing business on the corner of North Clark and Michigan streets, and also had a branch at No. 122 Archer avenue, had suspended and made an assignment to Mr. Joel D. Harvey. The statement, which was furnished by a person connected with the bank, showed a very favorable state of affairs. The cause was said to be a personal disagreement between the stockholders, and not financial embarrassments. It was, however, rumored during yesterday that the affairs of the bank were not in such good condition as was claimed. In order to ascertain the real facts of the matter, a reporter called upon

MR. FREDERICK MEYER,

the Cashier of the bank last evening. Mr. Meyer had no objection to being interviewed, and readily answered all the questions propounded to him. The reporter, after stating the object of his visit, asked Mr. Meyer whether the statement published yesterday morning was correct?

Mr. Meyer—The statement is not correct. If the state of our affairs was as satisfactory as there set forth the bank would have had no cause to make an assignment.

Reporter—Then the assets do not cover the liabilities?

Mr. M.—They do not, as you will see by the following statement:

Assets—Cash and bonds		$130,000
Short-notes which can be collected		75,000
Notes secured by real estate		200,000
Total		$405,000

There are about $100,000 on overdue paper, which I do not think can be collected. The most of this money has been borrowed by Mr. M. D Buchanan and Messrs. Rice, Whitney, Clark, and others.

Reporter—Mr. Buchanan, I understand, has been prominently connected with

THE ILLINOIS RIVER RAILROAD CONSTRUCTION COMPANY.

Mr. M.—I understand he was its President at one time.

Reporter—Has that money been loaned to the Construction Company?

Mr. M.—It has been loaned to Mr. Buchanan and the gentlemen named above, but it is my opinion that it has been used for railroad purposes.

Reporter—What was Mr. Buchanan's relation to your bank?

Mr. M.—He was Vice-President and salaried Manager. The President, Dr. Tolman Wheeler, has been sick for some time, and he could take no active part in the management. It was my desire and Mr. Wheeler's to have the affairs of the bank closed up six months ago, but Mr. Buchanan refused to assent.

Reporter—What amount of deposits do you hold?

Mr. M.—$340,000 savings deposits and $110,000 commercial deposits. This includes the money deposited at the Archer Avenue Branch.

Reporter—How much do you think your creditors will receive?

Mr. M.—It is my opinion that they will receive over

85 CENTS ON THE DOLLAR.

Reporter—How large was your capital stock?

Mr. M.—$100,000; all of which will be a loss. I am one of the unfortunate stockholders myself.

Reporter—Is anything else regarding this matter which may be of interest?

Mr. M.—Nothing that I can think of. Mr. Harvey, the Assignee, is a good man, and will undoubtedly wind up the affairs as quickly and as satisfactorily as possible.

The reporter then withdrew.

M. D. BUCHANAN.

Last evening, about 8 o'clock, a TRIBUNE reporter called at the residence of M. D. Buchanan, Vice-President and Manager of the institution, No. 102 Ashland avenue. The information-gatherer rang the bell, and a servant opened the door, when the reporter asked for Mr. Buchanan. She said she would go up-stairs and see if he was in. There was a short argument at the head of the stairs between a man and the aforesaid servant-girl. She came down again and stated that Mr. Buchanan was not in.

Reporter—When will he return?

Servant—I can't tell.

At this stage an aged man trotted down stairs, when the following dialogue took place:

Old Man—What do you want?

Reporter—I want to see Mr. Buchanan.

O. M.—What paper do you represent?

R.—THE TRIBUNE.

O. M.—Well, you can't see Mr. Buchanan.

R.—Is he in the house?

O. M.—No, sir.

R.—When will he be in?

O. M.—I don't know.

R.—Where has he gone?

O. M.—I don't know anything about it. What do you want to know, anyhow?

R.—I want Mr. Buchanan to explain certain statements.

O. M.—THE TRIBUNE contained all the statements Tuesday that Mr. Buchanan will make.

R.—What time will Mr. Buchanan be in?

O. M.—I don't know. I can't tell you.

The reporter then left. He returned again several times during the evening. At 10:30 he made

HIS LAST CALL.

The house was then brilliantly lighted up as if for a fete. At the first ring of the bell footsteps were heard in the hall-way, and, of course, an answer was expected to the ring. Instead, however, the hall-light was suddenly turned out. Another pull at the bell followed, and as if by a concerted movement, the entire building was turned into the blackest darkness within and curtains suddenly dropped. It was pretty evident that Mr. D. Buchanan was in the house, and had been all the evening, but probably he did not care about being bothered by interviewers. He has had full control of the bank for some time. Dr. Tolman Wheeler was President, but did not take an active part in the business. He is now lying very seriously ill at his residence, No. 259 Ontario street.

It was specially unfortunate in the interests of the public that Mr. Buchanan could not be found, as that gentleman could have explained what seems like a muddle in connection with the affairs of the company, the Illinois River Railway, and the Construction Company. This Illinois River Road, which has been figuring so much in the courts of late, is a little line running down into the coal country about half-way between the Rock Island and the Alton Roads. Following the example of the Union Pacific and other lines, this road had to have a Construction Company to build it, and of that Company Buchanan, also a large stockholder in the Commercial Loan Company, was President. The Construction Company got a large part of its pay in bonds of the railroad, which do not at this moment, and never did, possess the value of refined gold. Hence, to get money to build the road, it is believed the bank made advances amounting to about $85,000 to the Construction Company, and with this sum it went on with its contract. Lately the railroad—which was, it is alleged, improperly sold out to the Alton & St. Louis—and the Construction Company have been in every court in Cook County, except the Justice and Criminal Courts, all sides making charges which shake one's faith in the morality of railroad men. At a meeting of the stockholders of the Construction Company held Monday, Buchanan was deposed from the Presidency. The same day the bank shut up. It does not follow, however, that there was any connection between the two events. From the entangled condition of the railroad and the Construction Company, it is safe to assume that the bank will not get any money out of them; but Mr. Buchanan is understood to be wealthy, and can take care of the indebtedness.

QUITE A LARGE CROWD OF DEPOSITORS,

mostly Germans, sadly disposed themselves in front of the Commercial Loan Company's office, on the North Side, yesterday, lamenting their ill-fortune and expressing themselves in choice language, as the idea that their hard-earned earnings were gone, perhaps forever, recurred to their desponding minds. A far different crowd assembled at the Archer avenue branch of the concern. They were mostly descendants of the Emerald Isle, and were a little more demonstrative than their North Side brethren in their inquiries as to when they would get their money. They formed a dense crowd in front of the bank, and as the judicial election was progressing yesterday, many people jumped at the conclusion that the branch office was the correct place to deposit their votes. This they tried to do, but they failed most effectually. Finally, in the course of human events, they were persuaded that they had gotten into the wrong box, and they dispersed to another and more appropriate place to enjoy the natural prerogative of the citizen.

Among those who have large deposits in the suspended Commercial Loan Company, the following are mentioned: Max Romer, $2,500; Mr. Krentzberg, $1,100; Mike Casey, $2,900; W. Young, Clerk of the County Court, $700; Mrs. F. G. Hoffman, $800; State's-Attorney Charles Reed, $5,000; and Justice H. A. Kaufmann and the Knauer Brothers large amounts.

As appears from the above statement, the cash assets of the bank are about $195,000, and it is safe to say that a dividend of at least 40 per cent will be paid in a few days.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

The Proscriptive Bill Passed by the Creek Council---The "Indian Progress" Newspaper.

Special Correspondence of The Chicago Tribune.

MUSKOGEE, Creek Nation, Ind. Ter., Dec. 18.—The adjourned session (from September) of the Creek National Council terminated its deliberations on Saturday, the 11th inst. The Proscriptive bill which contemplated the repeal of the Permit law in force for years past, forbidding the employment of any citizen of the United States by citizens of this (Creek) nation for any purpose, except perhaps mechanical and medical, under penalty of a fine of $300 and costs of prosecution, and which passed both Houses (Kings and Warriors) of the National Council, in regular annual session in September, was, on Saturday last, pronounced unconstitutional by the Supreme Court of this nation. The bill never received the approval of the lately-retired Chief, the Rev. Samuel Checote, who was Principal Chief at the time of its passage. On the accession, the 5th of December, of Locher Harjo to the office of Principal Chief, the bill was presented to him for his signature; but he promptly returned it to the Council with the recommendation that it be modified, otherwise it would not be signed. The bill was then stripped of some of its objectionable features, and new ones, more liberal, inserted, and then it was passed; but, pending the signature of Chief Harjo, the decision of the Supreme Court rendered further action unnecessary. It is due to truth to state that a majority of the members of the Council—including a number of the leading spirits, strange to say—were in favor of the bill becoming a law as originally framed. It occurs to me that it is not inopportune to remark that the Indians of this and of the other civilized nations ought to fully understand that the time for proscriptive legislation—aimed directly at the whites—is past; and, if they are wise, they cannot help but see that their best interests imperatively demand of them the adoption of a broad, progressive, liberal policy towards all honest and industrious citizens of the Republic who may desire to enter and abide in this Territory, and who, in a proper spirit is manifested towards them by its inhabitants, will greatly aid them in developing its unquestionably rich resources.

The proprietors of the *Indian Progress* as you have been made aware, were interdicted, nearly two months ago, by the Creek authorities, from the further publication of their paper within the limits of the Creek Nation, because of their proposed advocacy of principles deemed by a majority of the Creeks as hostile to their interests. After the issuing, Oct. 29, of their second and last number from this place, they removed their printing-press and material hence, and are now located at Vinita, Cherokee Nation,—a village situated at the junction of the Missouri, Kansas & Texas and the Atlantic & Pacific Railways. The third, and from that point initial, number made its appearance the 10th inst. The editor, Dr. E. Poe Harris, a Cherokee citizen and as accomplished gentleman, in his salutatory wrote, in part, as follows:

The attempt of the representatives of prejudice and intolerance—although it has caused us great inconvenience and pecuniary loss—has signally failed. . . . No opportunity will be omitted to encourage enterprise, industry, and progress, and to assist by every means in our power to make the people of this Territory self-supporting. . . . The *Progress* will be an uncompromising foe to all "Rings" and leagues, let them be ever so powerful.

The statement recently published in a St. Louis paper, that the authorities of the Creek Nation had sold the building belonging to the proprietors of the *Progress*, is without foundation, they having never attempted to effect a sale, or even to get possession of the building. The house was sold by a representative of the owners (Boudinot & Harris) yesterday, to a gentleman—a citizen of the United States—residing here, for a fair consideration; and the impression prevails that there will be no attempt at interference, by setting aside the sale as illegal, upon the part of the Creek authorities.

C. S.

THE DYNAMITE DEMON.

Thompson's American Antecedents.

New York Herald, Dec. 19.

The latest reports from Europe in regard to the identity of the man William Henry Thompson, who had taken passage on the steamship Mosel, at Bremerhaven, with the intention of leaving her at Southampton, England, and having her passengers blown into eternity by his villainous clockwork for exploding dynamite after the ship had reached mid-ocean, seem to be well founded. That he resided in Germany during the last few years is shown by the testimony of various tourists who met him in Leipzig in 1871, 1872, and 1873, and afterward in and near Dresden.

He was known as a blockade-runner during the late War, as Master of the steamer Old Dominion,—a name not recognized by the Shipmasters' Association of New York, but well known to the coast residents of the Southern States as one of the boldest vessels in the fleet between the Bahamas and the Atlantic ports of the South. After the Woodruff Brothers, Capt. "Bill" Thompson carried the highest head among the blockade-running Captains, and made the most money by his adventures.

A reference to the "Record of American and Foreign Shipping," compiled by the American Shipmasters' Association, dated Jan. 1, 1871, shows the name of William Henry Thompson, holding a certificate as Captain, No. 9,683, but without a ship. The record so continued until 1873, when his name was dropped. The Captain was then on the other side of the water.

Yesterday morning a *Herald* reporter met an old associate of the dead Captain, and in the conversation that ensued obtained the following facts: "His real name was William King Thompson; he was a man about 45 years old and wore a full red beard; his eyes were very small and quite blue; his temperament was of the nervous sort, and at times his anger was terrible in its expression. He wore glasses over his eyes whenever I saw him, and I think he wore them habitually, because he was so near-sighted. I should think, from what I remember of his size, that he weighed fully 275 pounds. I was intimately acquainted with him during his residence in Leipzig in the fall of 1871 and until the summer of 1873, when he lived there with his family. After that he moved to Streiba, near Dresden, and I lost track of him. In conversation he often told me of his friends in America, and said that he was born in Brooklyn, L. I. I know very well of his marriage. He wedded a beautiful woman from Louisiana, I think, a native of New Orleans. She is living yet, and has four children to care for. I hope that the sins of the father will not fall upon their heads, for they are innocent. The Captain resided in Virginia from 1862 until 1865, and his rapid accumulation of wealth by blockade speculations was very familiar to me."

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 18.—There is a suspicion here this evening that the man, William King Thompson, alias Thomasson, of Mosel explosious notoriety, and one Henry Thomas, who recently carried on business in this city, are one and the same person, and this is strengthened by the fact that the latter-named individual was a sort of a chemist. Thomas came here about June or July, 1874, first renting a house in a suburban portion of the city, but afterward, in the month of October, the fine store on Main street, No. 1407, where he established the "Canton Oil Color Works," a trade mark to which he had neither title nor claim. He employed a number of girls to put up his colors in bottles, which subsequently turned out to be nothing more than colored water, which he called "aniline dyes."

These bottles were beautifully labeled, packed in handsome pasteboard boxes, and repacked in larger cases in the finest style. He effected insurance on his stock, which he claimed to be worth $36,000, in four companies for $4,000 in each, producing invoices at the time for $59,000 worth of goods, purporting to have been purchased by him. Nearly all of these invoices afterward turned out to be forgeries, the bill heads of which were printed in this city. About the hour of 11 o'clock in the morning of a day in April last a fire broke out in the very room the girls were at work in. Owing to the combustible nature of the material and the quantity of inflammable matter in the room, the flames spread rapidly, and, while the house was saved by the Fire Department, Thomas' property was partially destroyed. Two of the insurance companies acted with him, but the others investigated the circumstances of the fire and succeeded in securing information which caused Thomas to decamp mysteriously, and he has never been heard of since. His stock, which was left here, sold for less than $200, but a portion had been shipped to Cincinnati to a fictitious name, and a portion to Baltimore. That at Cincinnati was called for, but that sent to Baltimore never was claimed.

Thomas has since been regarded here as a swindler, and, as he called himself an "analytical and synthetical chemist" and had a decided penchant for "doing" insurance companies, the idea has struck several people that he might possibly be the dynamite fiend of the Mosel. He first claimed to be an Englishman, then of Frederick, Md., but he could give no good business reference in that State. He admitted that he had been in nearly every city in the United States, with the exception of Cincinnati, which fact led parties here to believe he did really come from the latter city, but that he was prudent enough to conceal it. He had with him while here a handsome young woman, who lived with him as his wife, and a boy that many believed was Charley Ross.

THE INDIANS.

TROUBLE THREATENED IN TEXAS.

GALVESTON, Tex., Dec. 21.—Advices from Eagle Pass state that 300 Lopons, Jillicis, and Comanches, Indian warriors, are reported by a Mexican trader at the Canon of St. Rogers, 40 miles above Remilo. It is thought that the object of the Indian gathering is depredations in Texas.

Dispatches from Fort Clarke state that Mexicans crossed the river 12 miles below San Felipe, surprised Pond's ranche, killed three men and captured all the arms, horses, and 600 cattle. Companies of citizens are organizing to follow, and much trouble is apprehended.

A horrible massacre is reported near Atoka, in the Indian Nation. The bodies of four persons were found burned on the prairie, two of which were females. Two were burned beyond recognition. The others were whites. A pony, with a lady's side-saddle, a dog, and a gun, were found near. They had all been shot. Three men, seen riding 9 miles from the spot, are supposed to have done the shooting. The prairies were fired to destroy the trail.

O. K.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

MONTREAL, Dec. 21.—It is stated that the St. Sulpice Seminary priests have offered to settle the difference between the Oka Indians and themselves by paying the Indians $15,000 if they give up all claims to lands at Oka. A dispatch from Ottawa says that the Government have the circumstances connected with the Oka India Reserve under consideration. They have done and are now doing all in their power to make satisfactory arrangements for this community.

A SOUTH CAROLINA MUDDLE.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Dec. 21.—Gov. Chamberlain has refused to issue commissions of Whipper and ex-Gov. Moses, the obnoxious Judges-elect. He says that as the terms of the present incumbents of the office to which the above-named persons claim to have been elected will not expire until after another general election of members of the General Assembly, the present General Assembly has no right to elect their successors.

German Wit.

The Hamburg *Reforma*, which is the oldest illustrated daily paper in the world, and contained some very striking cartoons, not always to the glory of Bismarck, during the Franco-German war, has an amusing picture in its number for Dec. 1, of the two scurvy bludgeon-bearing rogues who met in a lonely place for no good purpose. One says to the other, "Stealing would be a very good business if it were not for the police." "Nonsense," replies the other, "the police keep down competition. If there were no police, every blockhead would take to stealing." How sad it is to think that, in New York, this sagacious thief would find his logic at fault, and the competition he dreads only increased by the police!

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[From the New York Times.]

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The excellence of this SAUCE having caused numerous imitations, the NEW LABEL bears a *fac simile* of the proprietors' signature,

Lea & Perrins

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The Great Star Ollo in the Divertissement.

A whole herd of Camels and the Performing Elephant Siam, in the Persian Caravan. Do not

THE CITY.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Hyde Park Hotel, recently refitted and put in admirable condition, will remain open during the winter.

The pedestrian, Bertha Von Hillern, is requested to call at the city rooms of THE TRIBUNE to receive certain communications.

The Newsboys' Home was presented with a very fine Christmas tree yesterday. But there is as yet nothing with which to adorn it.

Shortly after noon yesterday, John A. E. Lindt, who keeps a dry-goods store at No. 642 Elston avenue, fell from his buggy and had several of his ribs broken.

The temperature yesterday, as observed by Manasse, optician, No. 88 Madison street (TRIBUNE Building), was, at 8 a. m., 53 deg.; 10 a. m., 53; 12 m., 54; 4 p. m., 55; 8 p. m., 44.

It was stated in Saturday's paper that a party of bunko-ropers had been domiciled at Kuhn's Hotel, and that Detective Chapin had arrested one of them and broken up their business. The arrest was made as stated, but the man and his associates were not stopping at Kuhn's, but at another hotel.

Mr. Alexander Kirkland told the Caledonians last night what he knew about Oliver Goldsmith. Mr. Kirkland's reputation as a speaker did not suffer any from his effort last evening, which was in every respect calculated to interest and instruct the large and appreciative audience which assembled to hear the lecture. A delightful feature of the entertainment was the very excellent vocal and instrumental music provided by the following well-known musicians: Mrs. Thurstin, Mrs. Watrous, Mr. William H. Stanley, and Mr. Edward C. Hale. Mr. Benjamin Owen acted as accompanyist.

The case of A. C. Greenebaum, who was brought here from Fort Wayne upon a requisition to answer to a charge of perjury, was examined before Justice Kaufmann yesterday. The complaint alleged that Greenebaum had committed perjury in signing an appeal bond and swearing that he was the owner of certain real estate. When the case was heard yesterday it became clear that Greenebaum was a victim and not an offender, the appeal bond having been signed and the perjury committed by some rascal who for that occasion personated Greenebaum in order to furnish straw bail. In addition to the proof that the signature to the bond was not Greenebaum's, it was shown that at the time the bond was signed he was not in Chicago, and had not been for nearly a month. The defendant was promptly discharged, and it is probable that a suit for damages will grow out of the matter.

Toward the close of the performance at the Adelphi last night, as the Amazons were marching upon a portion of the scaffolding used in the bridge-scene, the temporary structure fell with a terrible crash, and a series of shrieks, prolonged and loud, came from the people behind the scenes. The audience started to its feet, and a grand rush and crush were made for the doors, fire being suspected. But few, however, left the building, quiet was soon restored, and with it came the impression that "that elephant" had taken a tumble through the stage. It was, however, explained that the sweet creature was uninjured, and the performance was suddenly broken off. Drs. Ray and Hurlbert were summoned immediately, when it was ascertained, after the smoke had cleared away and the confusion had somewhat died out, that three or four persons were pretty roughly bruised, although nothing serious was discovered. The injured girls were taken to their homes in carriages, and their wants promptly attended to. Some will necessarily be absent from the bridge scene for a few days, but they will be kindly taken care of by the managers of the Adelphi. This unavoidable, as it seems, will not interrupt the performances, and the regular Wednesday matinee will be held this afternoon.

THE CHICAGO ATHENÆUM.

This Society, which has its rooms at Nos. 63 and 65 Washington street, has just closed the fall term of its evening classes, which has been more largely attended and more successful than any previous term. The course of study included German, French, Latin, drawing, phonography, vocal music, elocution, penmanship, and English grammar. In addition to these, the Mechanics' Institute, which occupies a portion of the rooms of the Athenæum, maintain classes in mechanical drawing, bookkeeping, and arithmetic. The total membership of all the classes was 740. The average amount paid by each pupil for tuition for the term of twelve weeks was but $1.18, and yet, with the large numbers associated together, this furnished a compensation to all teachers employed, and left a reasonable margin for general expenses. The element of charity has been largely eliminated from the work of the Society, in the belief that its privileges will be of greater value to the members if each pays the cost of all that he receives.

The winter term of the evening classes will open on the 3d of January next. Several new branches of study will be added, among them classes in reading and spelling, and a class in ancient history in charge of Dr. Samuel Willard, of the Chicago High-School. The department of drawing will be organized as a "School of Industrial Art," in charge of Prof. O. J. Pierce, Superintendent of Drawing in the public schools of the city. This will be under the auspices of the Mechanics, Institute. A circular has been prepared giving full and detailed information in regard to the next term of classes, which will be furnished free on application at the office of the Society, or will be sent to any address on request by postal-card.

POST-OFFICE DECISIONS.

Merchants having been in the habit of sending out papers devoted to special interests, in their own name, printed boldly on the wrapper, addressed "in the care of" their customers, at the regular pound rate chargeable on daily papers, the question was submitted to the Post-Office Department, and the following decision rendered:

That a newspaper or periodical sent by mail to a regular subscriber implies not only the name of such subscriber, but his residence or place of business also. When a subscriber is temporarily absent there would be no objection to sending his paper at the pound rate to the place where he may be temporarily sojourning, but when papers are addressed to subscribers at places where they have no permanent or temporary residence or place of business, with an evident intention to defraud the Government of the legitimate rate of postage to which such papers are subject, they should not be delivered until postage has been paid thereon at transient rates, notwithstanding they may be sent to the care of some other individual.

The following decision, also made by the Department, explains itself:

Any publication classified "First," "Second," "Third," edition, etc., each edition bearing the same date as the others, and the matter contained therein differing from that contained in the other editions in no particular except in the insertion of different business cards, or letter or figures, designed in a post-office, to be sent by mail as matter of the second class, shows a palpable intention on the part of the publisher thereof to evade the law requiring the payment of postage or transient rates upon such advertisement were it sent separate and apart from such publication, and thus depriving the Government of the revenue that would be realized by the payment of such transient rate thereon. Such procedure is a violation of the law, and postage at transient rates prepaid by stamps affixed should be required upon such publications.

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

An important meeting of the Board of Trustees was held at the Grand Pacific Hotel at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The Hon. J. Y. Scammon, First Vice-President, presided; Mr. W. O. Barrett acted as Secretary. The special object of the meeting had been specified in the call to be the consideration of the election of a President of the university. The subject came up immediately on the organization of the meeting in the form of a report from the Executive Committee, embodying a recommendation that the Hon. Alonzo Abernethy be chosen President of the University.

A full discussion was had on the adoption of the report, in which Messrs. Hoyne, Boone, Jones, Burroughs, and others participated. Mr. Hoyne represented not only his own views on the matter, but also those of Mr. Coolbaugh, who, from intimate personal acquaintance with the people of Iowa, was able to testify the high confidence and regard in which Col. Abernethy is held in that State, where he has for three successive terms held the position of State Superintendent of Public Instruction. A letter was read from Frank W. Palmer, of the *Inter-Ocean*, expressive of his confidence, based on long personal acquaintance, in the eminent fitness of Col. Abernethy for the place.

Chancellor Burroughs presented the views of a large number of the alumni of the University whom he had consulted, and also a communication from the faculty unanimously favoring the election. In suming up the considerations which had influenced him to bring forward the name of Col. Abernethy, he reviewed the leading incidents of his history and the prominent traits of his character.

COL. ABERNETHY

is of Scotch parentage, but born in this country, and is now about 40 years of age. He entered the University of Chicago as a member of the Sophomore class in 1859, but at the close of the junior years, returning to his home, he enlisted as a private in the Eleventh Iowa Regiment, in command of which he returned late in the autumn, after the close of the War. He immediately returned to the University and took his place in the class which he had left more than four years before. Compelled, however, to obtain leave of absence in the midst of the year to take his seat in the Legislature of his State, to which he had meanwhile been elected, he was still able to graduate with his class. Soon after he was chosen President of Des Moines University, from which, however, he was soon called to the head of the Department of Public Instruction of the State. His re-election for the third term, in October last, was virtually without opposition, all parties uniting on him and giving him a larger majority than that of any other State officer. As a student, Col. Abernethy invariably maintained, in every institution where he studied, the highest standing. His early bent was toward mathematics, but in the more advanced periods of his course, his interest in metaphysics and logic became paramount, and his later studies in these subjects have fortunately supplied especial fitting for the chair to which he has been elected. In character it is not too much to say that Col. Abernethy is universally recognized wherever he is known as a gentleman of the highest honor and integrity. Aside from his eminent personal fitness, the consideration which has chiefly weighed with the Trustees in this choice is in the fact that Col. Abernethy is by choice and profession an educator. College Presidencies have been largely filled by clergymen, and there is no wish to undervalue the eminent services which gentlemen of that profession have rendered to the cause of education. At the same time, the Trustees of the University have acted under the conviction that the work of the teacher is itself a profession, requiring special fitting, and worthy of exclusive pursuit instead of being followed as a mere adjunct to something else. What the University most needs in him who is to stand at the head of its work, especially in view of its unsectarian character and aims, is not so much one to shine in the pulpit or to advocate orthodox theology as one who is imbued with the educational spirit, who has made a study of educational methods, who understands and is in sympathy with the needs of the young, and aspires to no higher calling than to be their teacher and guide in the period when not only mind is trained, but when the foundations of character and destiny are laid.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That in pursuance of the recommendation of the Executive Committee, and of their own maturest judgment, the Hon. Alonzo Abernethy be, and is hereby, elected President of the University of Chicago, at a salary of $5,000 per annum.

It is understood that this election is made after an understanding with Col. Abernethy that he will entertain the subject, and that it is hoped that he will be ready to take the place with the opening of the next term in January.

Immediate steps are to be taken for the endowment of the chair so as to insure a salary of $5,000 per annum.

THE COUNCIL'S GAS ORDINANCE.

WHAT MR. BILLINGS THINKS OF IT.

The Council having passed Monday evening an ordinance not allowing the People's Gas Company to charge more than $3 per 1,000 feet of gas consumed within the city limits, a reporter was yesterday morning detailed to call upon Mr. A. M. Billings, President of the West Side Gas Company, to gain from him some information in regard to this subject. That gentleman was found at his residence, on Lake street below Sheldon. Mr. Bulings is at present confined to his house by illness, but he courteously gave the reporter an audience, and was willing to answer any questions put to him. The conversation ran about as follows:

Reporter—I presume, sir, you have read the ordinance passed by the Council last evening in regard to the Gas Companies?

Mr. Billings—I have.

R.—What are you going to do about it?

Mr. B.—Do? why, bless you, nothing. What should we do? The Council has no power to do anything in this matter. We only charge $3 per 1,000 feet now for gas consumed; have never charged any more, and don't intend to.

R.—Then, what is the ordinance for?

Mr. B.—For nothing. We don't charge anybody more than $3 who shows a disposition to pay, and with such our bills often run over three months or more. There are, however, certain individuals who "lay" for us, planning now they can "beat" us. It is these consumers whom we charge $3.50, when bills are hard and troublesome to collect, in order to pay the additional expense.

R.—Then you think the Council has no authority in the matter?

Mr. B.—I think so. We shall disregard the ordinance, as it does not affect us. They can only change the rates ten years after the charter has been passed, and then to not less than $3 per 1,000 feet for gas consumed; and that ten years ain't up yet.

R.—Cannot gas be sold at a much lower price?

Mr. B.—No, sir; not as long as the Council insists on our spreading our mains into open prairies, where no one lives to use our gas. We lost last month by condensation in prairie mains over 5,000,000 feet of gas. We would rather the city would take all the gas-works, and operate them, and distribute the gas as they do the water. I think that would be more satisfactory to the general public.

R.—Are your works profitable?

Mr. B.—No, sir. The old Company sells as much gas in one night as we do in three, and they have less miles of pipe than we have.

R.—Is not the object of the ordinance to get down the price of gas?

Mr. B.—If that is the object, I am perfectly willing it shall be done. I am willing to co-operate in any such scheme, and our books are open at any time to a committee of citizens or Council to examine for the purpose.

R.—But cannot gas be made cheaper?

Mr. B.—Certainly it can. But not as long as we have to lay pipe that extend no nowhere, and waste our gas. I say that the price of gas will be reduced as soon as this practice for the benefit of vacant lot-owners is stopped by the Council.

R.—Have you lost anything by non-payments?

Mr. B.—Within the last eighteen months we have lost over $74,000, as our books will show, and it is only on the hard cases, such as this amount represents, that we put on the $3.50.

R.—How do you measure leakage and condensation?

Mr. B.—By our meters at the works and private consumers. These are the gauges we go by, and they are very nearly, if not quite, accurate. Gas consumers, as a rule, are generous in Chicago, and we want to treat them with all due fairness, and it is only those who wish to consume gas at the expense of others that we are after. This closes the interview.

LOCAL ART.

AUCTION SALE OF PAINTINGS.

The auction sale of paintings at Brand's new art building on Wabash avenue opened auspiciously last evening. The friends of local art have every reason to congratulate themselves at the success of the sale, which could not be regarded in the outset as anything but a precarious experiment. The frequent disposal of cheap daubs at auction in this city has had a very discouraging effect upon the reputable artists residing here, whose earnest endeavors after the true and the natural have often gone unrewarded. Even after it had been determined to inaugurate a series of sales of paintings by the Chicago members of the profession, the result was looked forward to with many misgivings. That those misgivings were not well founded was proven last evening by the excellent attendance at the sale and the spirited bidding. Mr. Leonard officiated as auctioneer, and drew forth many encomiums from the managers of the affair and the auditory, by reason of his skillful and agreeable manner. About half of the collection was sold, realizing something over $3,000. A number of the best pictures were reserved for this evening, and it is hoped that they will be disposed of, together with the remainder of the lot. The sale will begin at 7:30 p. m.

NOT TO BE GIVEN UP.

AN APPLICATION FOR MR. COLE REFUSED.

Sheriff Davis, of Warren County, Pa., yesterday morning presented his warrant from Gov. Beveridge, and requisition from Gov. Hartranft, for the body of George D. Cole, the too-much married young Pennsylvanian, to Sheriff Agnew, when he was confronted with the following document:

SHERIFF AGNEW: I am informed that there is a requisition for the arrest of George D. Cole, who is confined in the County Jail, under a warrant of Commonwealth, issued by a Justice of the Peace here. He is also indicted by the Grand Jury here. It is your duty to hold him till he is discharged from the proceedings here. Yours, etc., CHARLES H. REED, State's Attorney.

The above is my view of the law, and you will, therefore, obey it. JOHN A. JAMESON, Judge of the County Court.

Sheriff Davis concluded that it would be wise to return to the Keystone State without Cole, under the circumstances.

Cole expresses profound regret that he cannot return to his native State and there be tried. He says THE TRIBUNE reporter who wrote the articles in regard to him was bribed to do it, and that he (Cole) is an abused man. However, there are at least two marriage certificates in existence, which show that he was married to two wives, one in Towanda and the other in Warren, Pa., and that they are both alive and pretty healthy ones, considering the kind of treatment received at the hands of Cole.

Another thing will also somewhat reflect on Cole's character for truthfulness; and that is, that he wrote to his two wives on the same day, the same letter, copied from the same "letter-writer," full of the same affection, and varying only in the names. These letters are in existence, as well as numerous copies of the book from which they were taken.

Cole's mother is making her way here from Towanda, Pa. She left there Monday night, and is probably in this city this morning. A lawyer accompanies her, and she will endeavor to obtain possession of the body of her son, who, as she claims, was only led into his peculiar foibles by indiscretion. Evidently, the end of the case is not yet, and further developments may be looked for. Sheriff Davis and Mr. H. J. Miller, the father of one of Cole's wives, left for their home in Warren, Pa., last evening. They will probably not return for Cole until his time in Joliet has expired.

DIRECT TRADE IN LIQUORS.

PETITION OF THE WHOLESALE DEALERS.

The wholesale dealers in wines, liquors, etc., in this city have been thinking for some time that they ought to be allowed to bring their wines and liquors through to Chicago, and pay the duties on them here, without the preliminary examination and appraisement made in the seaboard cities. The act of July 14, 1870, granting this privilege now sought to be obtained by the liquor men to all other classes of goods. It is considered that this new measure would greatly benefit interior importers and interior Custom Houses, by causing the duties to be paid here, by giving employment to the working classes in handling the goods, and by the general accumulation of wealth here which now goes to enrich New York, Boston, Philadelphia, and Baltimore. The dealers now petition Congress to strike out of Sec. 2,990 of the Revised Statutes the words which except wines, liquors, and distilled spirits from the privilege of transportation without appraisement.

In this action the Chicago merchants are joined by their St. Louis brethren, and the petition has also received some signatures from Cincinnati dealers. The practical result of the proposed measure will be to allow Chicago, St. Louis, and Cincinnati importers and dealers to bring their goods directly from the old country to their own doors without having them lie over in New York and other cities. The bonded warehouses in the West will be quickly filled, and the importing trade of these Western cities will be greatly increased. The fate of the petition will be accordingly watched with interest, both by dealers and enterprising citizens generally.

LOCAL LETTERS.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—We all take great pleasure in Plymouth Church, don't we? Plymouth, of Chicago, understand; and have every reason to suppose as regards its facilities for ventilation, acoustics, and every other necessary comfort and convenience, it is unrivaled. But when a scientific Christian lecturer is invited there to deliver a profound and lengthy discourse, is it not an obligation due the lecturer, as well as the audience first of all, to secure good, healthy ventilation? Last Sabbath evening the Rev. Norman A. Millard, by special request, delivered in this church his lecture upon "The Security of Our Republic." This is a subject in which every good citizen should at once, if he has not already, become pre-eminently interested. One should not forget, however, that to give even a cursory account of the history of our beloved country for 250 years, and of the great dangers that seem to threaten its institutions, unless Christian citizens of every party become more watchful and prayerful, would necessarily occupy much longer time than that of a usual sermon. But add to this an overheated atmosphere, the effect will readily show itself upon the audience. It was observed during this and also Prof. Winchell's scientific lecture, that many persons left the house, greatly to the annoyance of many who came solely for instruction, and to endure to the end. The apparent uneasiness of the people generally was not the fault of the lecturer, but from the fact that the air was found to be unduly heated to be almost unbearable. Now, if Dr. Bartlett himself were responsible for this state of things, we would not be so much surprised, taking into consideration the overflowing generosity of his soul, especially would all the young men and young women endure it without complaint for his sake. As this is not the case, and while I commend and sustain this people for their broad, expansive religious ideas, I suggest an amendment in the over-much heated atmosphere of Plymouth Church. This can easily be accomplished in our city without involving the reputation of its pastor or people, without going to court or spending much valuable time or money in judges or juries. Give the people fresher air both here and everywhere. M. S. G.

IRREVERENT BOYS.

To the Editor of The Chicago Tribune:

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—I am an old man, 72 years of age. I have traveled a good deal of the world, but in all my travels I never was so basely assaulted as I have been since I came to Chicago. This is the second time. Yesterday afternoon about 2 o'clock, as I was walking along Ashland avenue, I saw four boys ahead of me on the sidewalk; they appeared to me to be about 14 years of age. When I came up to them they never moved; it was with difficulty that I passed them. I had not passed them over 20 yards when two stones were flung after me; one passed by the side of my head, the other struck the back of my head and knocked my hat off, and it rolled into the ditch. I turned round to see; they ran nearly a block and turned on to some vacant lots. I thought to follow them, but if I had they might have turned upon me, and left me a corpse there, and my children and friends would never know what had become of me, so I walked leisurely away, looking here and there to see if I could see a policeman, but I saw none, so I pocketed the assault and made the best of my way home. I think it a disgrace to the city authorities to allow boys to congregate on the sidewalks and street corners to assault travelers as they pass. You will confer a favor by publishing this for the benefit of others as well as myself. Respectfully yours, AN OLD MAN.

CRIMINAL.

The detectives at Central Station yesterday recovered $200 worth of clothing stolen from Lester Coffeen, in the Superior Court Clerk's office, and $60 worth of pool-balls stolen from M. Everett.

Josie Howard, of Biler avenue fame, yesterday enticed a Granger named John Miller into her den, and while there she robbed him of $30. They was found on her person, and restored to the greeny, while Josie was fined $10 for disorderly conduct.

James Brown, a clerk at the defunct Briggs House, seized on some property to insure the payment of his back salary, and, as he had no legal attachment for the same, it is called embezzlement. He will answer the charge to-day before Justice Kaufmann.

Thomas Walsh was cold and he comforted himself with an overcoat belonging to Charles Seeblade, of No. 182 West Erie street. The overcoat contained $40 in currency, but the thief was not slow to find, for he had spent a good portion of it before he was captured.

Thomas Rooney and William O'Donnell yesterday shouldered a bundle of hides in front of the store of Oberne McDonald & Co., at No. 133 Kinzie street. Officer Young followed them to Washington street, where they were delayed by a quarrel as to who was entitled to the hides. Moral: Thieves should never quarrel about their plunder.

Vandal hands have been desecrating several of the Catholic churches in the South Division. From St. John's Church, on Eighteenth street, they stole a chalice, etc., valued at about $150, and desecrated the Sacred Host. St. James' and St. Mary's were also entered and several articles of value and the contents of the contribution-boxes carried away.

Sam Hong is a burly Chinaman, and Jim Lee's almond eyes are the largest part of him. Sam Hong caught Jim Lee squinting at him, and he went for the heathen. In his passion, the worst punishment he could conceive was to strip Jim Lee of his pantaloons. Shortly after there was a scene at the Armory, a comical Chinaman with a very long frock and bare ankles, a very mad Chinaman waving aloft Jim's faded pantaloons, and a hurly-burly of all kinds of Chinamen wanting to "go bailee."

THE COUNTY BUILDING.

The County Court was not in session yesterday.

The Finance Committee yesterday negotiated a loan of $50,000 from the International Bank at 7½ per cent, which is to be added to the general fund.

The North Town Collector has his office in the County Treasurer's office.

The County Clerk yesterday delivered the Collector's books for the Towns of Lake and Hyde Park.

The Grand Jury will meet again this morning, and it is probable that the work before it will keep it in session during the week.

A man calling himself a representative of "Brick" Pomeroy's forthcoming paper was around the building yesterday looking for patrons. It is already rumored in official circles that this paper will be the official organ of the Board the coming year.

A large number of parties connected with the County Building were annoyed by the collapse of the Commercial Loan Savings Bank. State's Attorney Reed had about $3,000 there; Mr. Young, of the Probate Court, $700; and several of the clerks various amounts, ranging from $5 to $100. Michael Casey, the proprietor of a neighboring saloon, has $2,600 there; and a man named Young, a waiter in a neighboring restaurant, $400. The North-Town Collector narrowly escaped depositing in the bank the evening before it closed.

THE INDICTED JUDGES.

The cases of the indicted judges of election of the First and Second Precincts of the Twentieth Ward were called in the Criminal Court yesterday morning. Their attorneys responded with an affidavit asking for a change of venue. The request was promptly granted, and Judge Booth was named as the Judge to whom a change would be granted. He was sent for at once, but, not being engaged in Court, could not be found. The cases were, as a consequence, continued till this morning at 10 o'clock. The Second Precinct judges, Messrs. Henry Sexton, Theodore Asmus, and J. G. Green, will be the first tried. They are charged with refusing to admit Republican challengers into the room when the vote was being taken, and with sundry other offenses.

THE CITY-HALL.

The City Collector took in $3,000 yesterday.

Water rents yesterday were $2,485.50, and real and personal property taxes $643.30.

Almost the entire Law Department were out electioneering during the day for Judge Dickey.

For the past few days Treasurer O'Hara has been paying off the coupons on the city bonds.

The "boys" of engine company No. 25 received, a day or two ago, a case of wine and a box of cigars from a gentleman whose drug store had been saved from total destruction by their efficient efforts. The prize was divided, and on Christmas-Day the corks will fly.

According to Sanitary Superintendent Miller's report there were 132 deaths for the week ending Saturday, an increase of two over the preceding week. There were 13 deaths from consumption and 18 from convulsions; 74 were under 10 years of age; 67 were males and 65 females.

The Committee on Railroads meets to-day at 3 p. m.; the Committee on Harbors and Bridges Thursday; on Wharves and Public Grounds Saturday; and the Council will meet to-morrow night by special call, to consider petitions and communications, and to receive Mr. Tilley's new plans for the Council-House. If the plans are as reported to be, they will satisfactory as to form and support, as there is a feeling that Tilley has not been treated with as much consideration as should have been given to him under the circumstances. As for himself, he seems hopeful; says that he must expect a little trouble once in a while, and altogether takes the situation in a resigned though determined manner.

About forty laboring men, who had been at work on the excavation in the city side of the Court-House Square, called upon the Board of Public Works yesterday afternoon to get pay for the work already performed. Kinney & Doyle were the contractors for the job. They worked about one week and gave it up; consequently the burden fell upon their bondsman, whose name is Krick. He determinedly went to work, and has so far succeeded as well as could be expected, seeing that he had no money, as is usually the case with bondsmen. The city now owes him about $1,100, and he owes the laborers about $2,000. He claims to be able to clear all debts as soon as he can sell the dirt from the excavation, and also get the money due will receive from the city for work performed. However, the $1,100 will be divided up among the men. The Board of Public Works and have been constantly annoyed with such occurrences, and have at last begun to think that it is not always the best policy to award a contract to the lowest bidder; and despite the accusations of "ring cliques" and "thievings," will henceforward award the contract to those parties who can furnish the best testimonials as to their responsibility, and who are moderate in their demands.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The first annual ball of Chicago Battalion, I. O. O. F., will take place at Standard Hall Christmas Eve, Dec. 24.

"Lift a Little" is the subject chosen by Miss Hulett, our young lady lawyer, for her lecture Thursday evening, Dec. 23, at Plymouth Church. Admission only 25 cents.

Dr. H. W. Thomas lectures in the First Methodist Episcopal Church Tuesday evening, the 28th inst., on "The Successful Life."

SUBURBAN.

LAKE VIEW.

The Town Board held its regular meeting Monday night, all the members being present. A petition for the cutting down of the Green Bay road from York place to Diversy avenue was laid over. Ordinances were passed for pipes on the following routes: A 4-inch pipe on Frederick court from Clark to Orchard street, with a hydrant at Larrabee street; a 4-inch pipe on Orchard from Frederick to Fullerton avenue; a 4-inch pipe on Lill avenue from Halsted to Lincoln avenue, with hydrant at Lincoln avenue; a 6-inch pipe on Sunnyside avenue from Ravenswood Park to Robey street, with hydrant at Robey; a 4-inch pipe on Commercial street from Bertean to Lawrence avenue, with hydrants at Wilson and Cosgrove avenues; a 4-inch pipe on Paulina street from Leland to Sulzer avenue, with hydrant at Sulzer.

The following resolution was adopted: That the Supervisor deposit with the American Exchange National Bank of New York, $4,375 to pay semi-annual interest due on Lake View water bonds Jan. 1, 1876.

A committee of three, consisting of L. H. Pierce, O. B. Green, and A. J. Weckler, was appointed to estimate the cost of the Lake-Shore drive. The following bills were ordered paid: R. S. Bronson, $400 for carpenter work on pumping-works, and T. Soeffge for mason work on same, $1,000; furniture for Town-Hall, $60; L. D. Owen, for three weeks as Inspector, $30; other bills, $173.99. D. M. Chappel's estimate for $23,894 for pipe laid, and for $6,246.19 for material delivered, was referred to the Supervisor.

The contractor for the valve well was on hand looking rather downcast. His contract was for $275, and he claims to have already sunk $436 while sinking the well, and still it is not down. He was not able to obtain much comfort, however, or even any payments as the job is still a failure. This well stands 10 or 15 feet from the building, and not more than 30 feet from the high chimney. It is 10 feet in diameter, and the contractor says he has already pumped out four or five times its capacity in sand. The Inspector had better look after the foundations, as this sand must come from somewhere, and it would not be expedient to land the building in the well.

The Board adjourned to Monday, Jan. 3.

LOMBARD.

Mrs. James Claflin's memorial sermon was preached last Sunday by the Rev. Mr. Caverno.

Mr. Edward Seats and wife leave in a few days to spend the winter with friends in the southern part of the State.

The long-expected Fair took place Friday evening. The church was tastefully decorated with articles both useful and ornamental, and, being well lighted, the effect was cheerful and attractive. There was a large attendance, which began assembling early. Among the number were Mrs. and Miss Hayden and Mr. Young, of Chicago, and also many from Prospect Park. Supper was provided in the lecture-room, and was such a supper as the ladies of Lombard know so well how to prepare, and to which all equally well know how to do justice. Sales were lively. The cause of much merriment was the young—not for the most popular lady or gentleman present, a proceeding apt to cause some jealousy and ill feeling, at least for the time, but—to decide which lady had her hair arranged in the most becoming and sensible manner,—a subject for voting which certainly had the merit of novelty, and was quite as sensible as the other. When the suggestion was made, a hundred hands went simultaneously to heads, blonde, black, and brown, and pocket looking-glasses would for a moment have been the most salable articles at the fair. A good deal of fun and a good deal of voting, but the contest at last was between Miss Anna Matson and Mrs. Tremly, the latter winning.

But the fun-loving young people were not yet through with their novelties. The next thing was the usual auction, but not all the usual articles, as may be seen, when a whole quilting party—old maids, rich widows, and all—was knocked off at an astonishingly low price to the highest bidder, whose happy state of mind as he paraded his purchase would have had a sad change had the objects been animate. The Fair was a success, both financially and in the enjoyment given to all. The people in the social little village believe that it is a good thing to drive away dull care as often as possible. The net proceeds were about $100.

Miss Elsie Lincoln leaves Wednesday to spend a few weeks in Michigan.

AMUSEMENTS.

THE ORATORIO CONCERT.

The oratorio of "The Messiah" was given last evening at the Centenary Methodist Church, in the regular series of church concerts, under the leadership of Mr. O. Blackman. The choruses were given by the choir of the church, enlarged to about 100 voices, and the solo numbers, as follows: Soprano, Mrs. L. B. Starkweather; alto, Miss Helen Mueller, set down upon the programmes as "making her debut after a course of four years' study in Europe"; tenor, Mr. M. L. Wheeler; and bass, Mr. James Gill. The accompaniments were given exclusively upon the organ, at which Mr. W. S. B. Mathews, the organist of the church, presided. The chorus ranks were filled almost exclusively with young amateurs. Few, if any, of the old Oratorio Society, which was burned out in the old First Congregational Church one winter night, two or three years ago, appeared among the singers. The pieces were new, and undoubtedly the majority were singing "The Messiah" for the first time, and, as there was an absence of leading voices in the parts, they had to depend upon themselves. Considering these facts, and also that they had no orchestra to bold them up, and that their conductor himself is not a veteran leader of oratorio, they certainly displayed a great deal of ability, and if they failed to make decided points and to bring out the grand old music with its proper lights and shades, they at least showed that they had learned their music, and sang it with conscientiousness and even enthusiasm, and also displayed a very fresh and clear quality of tone. As an amateur chorus, they are entitled to great credit for accomplishing so much in so short a time, and their persevering and hard-working conductor deserves credit also for making so much out of his little army. We have said this much for the chorus because it really deserves the praise for its study and its evident effort to do as well as it could, and also because its work was in every respect superior to that of the soloists. Mrs. Starkweather has a bright, clear, penetrating soprano voice, and displayed great intelligence and skill in extricating herself, in the number "Come Unto Him," from an embarrassment caused by the organist, which might have wrecked a less self-reliant singer; but she has evidently had very little experience in oratorio singing. We have to believe the programme, that Miss Mueller has just returned from a four years' study in Europe, and, therefore, she must be set down as a professional, not an amateur. We regret this all the more, for, as an amateur, her very bad style of singing might be excused, as well as her method and the inaccuracy of her tone. There may be other lines of singing in which she may excel, but as an oratorio singer it is simple justice to say that her debut was far from a success, and that we have many altos, who have not enjoyed the advantage of foreign study, who would have filled the part with more satisfaction. The tenor, Mr. Wheeler, either was laboring under a severe throat difficulty or else his method of singing is bad, as his voice seemed continually to be struggling against obstacles, and was delivered with difficulty. Mr. Gill sang his solos in a very spirited and animated manner, and gained frequent hearty applause—of which article, by the way, the audience was very lavish to all the performers. Mr. Mathews, the organist, was a little nervous over his work, which was very exacting, and laborious, but he played the accompaniments with excellent good taste. Taken as a whole, the performance was a pleasant indication that oratorio may yet be revived in Chicago, and that Mr. Blackman's little army may prove the nucleus of some future well-organized effort. The oratorio will be repeated next Thursday evening at the First Congregational Church, for the benefit of Mr. E. E. Whittemore, recently teacher of music in the public schools, to co-operate with Mr. Blackman. Mr. Whittemore is one of the most industrious and conscientious of our home musicians, has long been debarred from labor by serious and painful illness, and we hope on this account that his benefit will be a most substantial one.

INDIANA STATE FINANCES.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 21.—The Treasurer of the State, B. C. Shaw, submitted his annual report to the Governor this afternoon. It is very long, but thoroughly prepared and systematized throughout. The total foreign debt of the State is $1,098,755.12, the character of the bonds due remaining precisely as reported in 1874. The domestic debt is $3,904,782.22, making a total debt of $5,003,538.34. The condition of the funds is as follows:

Balance in Treasury	$ 244,208.73
Common school fund deficit	10,391.94
Swamp land deficit	820.80
Total	$ 255,325.55
Made up as follows:	
General fund	$ 244,764.10
College	160,373.00
Surplus revenue	2,007.52
Saving fund	23.13
Estates without known heirs	4,512.85
Excess of bids, sinking fund	2,405.19
Total receipts for the year	$4,197,094.80
Balance in Treasury, Nov. 1, 1874	244,303.78
Total	$4,441,398.67
Total disbursements	4,019,903.82
Balance on hand	421,394.85
General fund, receipts	2,210,576.68
Disbursements	1,786,597.25
College fund, receipts	24,160.04
Disbursements	18,393.25
Swamp land, receipts	2,553.60
Disbursements	1,724.00
Common school fund, receipts	2,005,786.76
Disbursements	2,005,757.76
Estates without heirs, receipts	6,431.34
Disbursements	85.00
Sinking fund, receipts	2,403.19
Disbursements	120.57

The histories of the 3 per cent and college funds, very complete and instructive, are given in detail. In speaking of the common-school fund, he shows that, instead of a deficit of $17,-562.43, there should be $344,549.91 to its credit. The mistake arises from the confusion of accounts, notably in 1861 and 1862, and in 1873. How the error shall be corrected is left to the decision of the Governor and State officers.

CANADA AND VICTORIA.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

TORONTO, Ont., Dec. 21.—An official dispatch from the Dominion Government to the Government of British Columbia proposing new terms of union is published. The document urges that, as the Vancouver's Island Railway from Nanaimo to Victoria is a work essentially local in its character, it should be undertaken by the local Government. It is also proposed that the British Columbians should relieve the Government of Canada of the obligation to build the Canadian Pacific Railway, accepting in lieu thereof a cash bonus of $750,000, to be applied either towards the local railway or other public works of Canada; also surrendering any claim to lands which may have been reserved in Vancouver Island for railway purposes. If this proposal be accepted, the Government will be prepared to submit to Parliament, at its forthcoming session, measures necessary to give it effect. The British Columbia Legislature will meet at an early day, and representatives of the Province will have an opportunity of expressing their opinion on the matter before the Dominion Parliament meets.

NEW ENGLANDERS' REUNION.

Special Dispatch to The Chicago Tribune.

BLOOMINGTON, Ill., Dec. 21.—New England people residing in Normal to the number of 200 held a reunion to-night at the Baptist Church in that place. A New England dinner, prepared by ladies in the genuine Down-East style, was served, after which President Edwards, of the Normal School, a brevet Yankee by marriage, although a native of Wales, presided in the auditorium of the church, where the people assembled to listen to an oration by Prof. Edwin C. Hewett, of the Normal School, a poem by Prof. Stetson, and speeches by Prof. Cook, L. A. Chase, of Chicago, and others. The meeting adjourned to meet one year from to-morrow.

Proposals Invited.

Printed specifications and blank proposals for the steam-heating, plumbing, and gas-fitting of the new buildings of the Illinois State Asylum for Feeble-Minded Children are now ready for distribution. They can be found at the office of Laing & Fehmer, architects, Room 41 Portland Block, and the plans of the same can be seen at the same room.

They can also be procured of John Barton, Lincoln, Ill., or of Dr. C. T. Wilbur, Jacksonville, Ill.

Plans are also on exhibition at Lincoln, Ill.

Proposals will be received until 2 o'clock p. m. Wednesday, Jan. 5, 1876, and should be addressed to Dr. C. T. Wilbur, Secretary, Lincoln, Ill.

The Best Collar.

That large class of our gentlemen friends who are dependent on the caprices of the weather and their washerwomen for neatly laundried collars should use the Elmwood or Warwick collars, and break from their bond ages. They can always be sure of a nice collar.

No Lady Should Visit the Skating Rink unless suitably attired. A natty skating-jacket designed from pattern furnished by the "Domestic" S. M. C., and embroidered on one of their new machines, is just now attracting much attention.

Sampson, Greene & Co.'s New Departure from big prices and big profits on their whole large and elegant stock of furniture, at Nos. 192 and 194 State street, causes consternation to dealers and joy to buyers. A word to the wise.

Holiday Goods at Cost.

Meyer Bros., No. 79 Randolph street, manufacturers of pocketbooks and importers of fancy goods, will close out at cost their stock of work-boxes, writing-desks, albums, and similar goods.

Possessing All the Facilities,

carrying as large a stock, making as many garments, paying not a quarter of the rent,—genis, why should you not save you that on suits? Ordway & Nordland, No. 209 West Madison street.

You Can Present Something Choice

that will be appreciated—because very rare, indeed—by those elegant